Part Three of Three
ROCK 'N' ROLL COMICS ®
47 MAY
U.S. $2.50 - CAN. $3.00
REVOLUTIONARY COMICS
UNAUTHORIZED AND PROUD OF IT.
Scott Jackson
Grateful Dead

by Todd Loren

CREDIBILITY FOR SALE

Denis Kitchen wants you to think his *Grateful Dead Comix* is better because it's authorized.

THE FAX-VOLLEY BETWEEN *Grateful Dead Comix* publisher Denis Kitchen and myself continues from last issue. This is Kitchen's third fax to me.

Todd:

My comments were not contradictory. I said--other than your unsolicited faxes--I've only read your one column on the CBLDF [Comic Book Legal Defense Fund], which was sent to me by a concerned competitor. As for your product line, I'm not on your comp list and I don't buy your comix. But a few are periodically shown to me at trade shows or cons, generally by retailers or distributors, often with comments like, "If comics this bad about rock n' roll can sell, how well could *good* ones do?" I haven't read more than a page or two of any because the art is so bad that I *can't* read them. The "likenesses" of the alleged rock stars were painfully crude. The comics I saw were amateurish at best. That is my professional opinion. Subjective opinion? Certainly. Shared by everyone I've discussed it with in the industry? Absolutely.

Why do I have a "preconceived contempt?" I don't know you or dislike you enough to use the word contempt. I don't like the way your comics look. Big deal. If I had any early preconception of you it was simply of someone shouting loudly about first amendment rights left and right, claiming to be a pioneer and in the vanguard, while producing shoddy comics. Then I saw your preposterous CBLDF column and you showed yourself to be, at best, and ill-informed jerk.

Everything I hear about you from other professionals is negative. Virtually everything I read about you in the trade press is negative. My opinion of your product I've seen is negative. You appear to be an arrogant, confrontational loudmouth. And you want me to explain *why* I have negative thoughts about you?

No one's entirely negative. I think you were smart enough to see a vacuum in the market for rock comics and filled the void with quantity at least, and so there's something to be said for your business acumen. And you certainly have enough chutzpah, if that's a favorable observation. I guess, in summary, I think of you as the comics' counterpart to Larry Flynt: he also has, thankfully, a first amendment right to produce *Hustler* and is often the one obnoxious enough to be on the visible cutting edge of the law, but no one respects him or his product or takes him seriously.

I've said it several times: your first amendment rights are not being challenged. My first letter made clear my concerns about trademark infringement.

Have fun in court and now kindly leave me alone.

DK

This would be my final fax to Denis...

Okay, so I'm a confrontational loudmouth, and I'm the Larry Flynt of the comicbook industry. You say these things as if it justifies your own denial of The First Amendment. Did it ever occur to you that I put forth this gruff facade in order to be able to accomplish the things I've done? Do you suppose a "nice guy" could challenge a company like MCA and get them to back down? Think about it. You may never have faced people like this in head-on combat. I have. You cannot show weakness in such a confrontation. Also, there are plenty of people in history who were disdained by their peers, who later went on to rise above such trivialities to accomplish great things. In fact, just about every innovator, every visionary since the dawn of time experienced this. The man who discovered fire was probably burnt at the stake. Did you see the movie *Tucker*? Have you read *The Fountainhead*? In fact, I would go as far as to say, show me a man who is hated by his peers, and I'll show you a fearless innovator. I knew that doing what I do would create contempt for me, because this is an industry which has been using licensing as a crutch for some time now. They don't like the idea of someone coming along and saying, "Hey, guess what? You're doing it the wrong way! You've got rights, use 'em!" Especially after they spent all that money to put out their officially licensed versions, like you did.

You repeatedly insist that my "First Amendment rights aren't

(continued on page 31)

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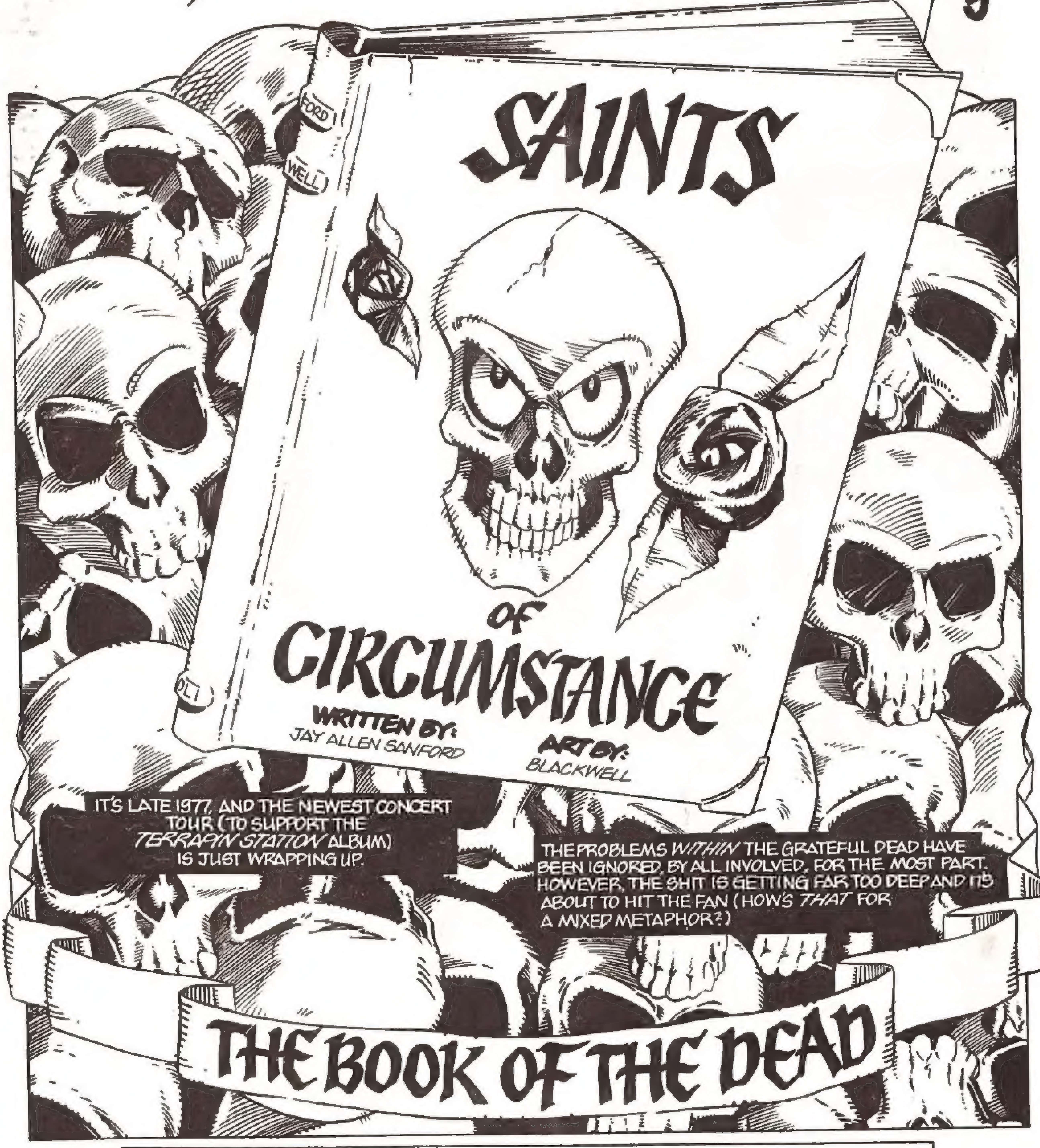
the GRATEFUL DEAD part 3



EDITED BY: TODD LOREN

LETTERED BY: MABEL WONG

"Meddle, meddle, friend of mine,
all good things in all good time."
-Run For The Roses
I CAUGHT YOU IN BED WITH HIM, DONNA! YOU'RE LUCKY I DIDN'T KILL YOU!
SO INSTEAD, YOU BOTH WALK OUT AND THE SHOW GETS CANCELLED! NICE MOVE, KEITH. NOW EVERYONE SUSPECTS WHAT HAPPENED?
STRIKE TWO, GUYS! THE BAND DOESN'T NEED THIS SHIT!
FUCK OFF, JERRY!
I HOPE WE CAN GET IT TOGETHER ENOUGH FOR THE ANNUAL NEW YEARS SHOW IN SAN FRANCISCO, BUT AFTER THAT, SOME SERIOUS DECISIONS ARE GONNA HAVE TO BE MADE!
FIRST, THOUGH, I OWE ARISTA A SOLO ALBUM*. IT'LL BE NICE TO GET AWAY FROM THE DEAD BULLSHIT... DONNA'S SINGING IS GETTING WORSE AND SHE'S FUCKING OTHER BAND MEMBERS, AND HER HUSBAND IS RIDING THE HEROIN HORSE!
*CATS UNDER THE STARS, HIS BEST SOLO RECORD TO DATE: ADVERSITY BREEDS GENIUS.
I THINK OUR NEXT ENDEAVOR SHOULD BE TRULY UNIQUE, SOMETHING NO OTHER ROCK BAND HAS EVER DONE!
LIKE WHAT, PHIL?
WE SHOULD GO THROUGH WITH THE PLAN WE TALKED ABOUT WITH GRAHAM LAST YEAR...GET PERMISSION TO PLAY EGYPT, IN THE AMPHITHEATRE AT THE BASE OF THE GREAT PYRAMID!
THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS ARE TEMPORARILY SHELVED AT THE NEXT BAND MEETING (AS BOB WEIR ONCE SAID, "NOBODY CAN BEAT THE DEAD WHEN IT COMES TO PROCRASTINATION!")
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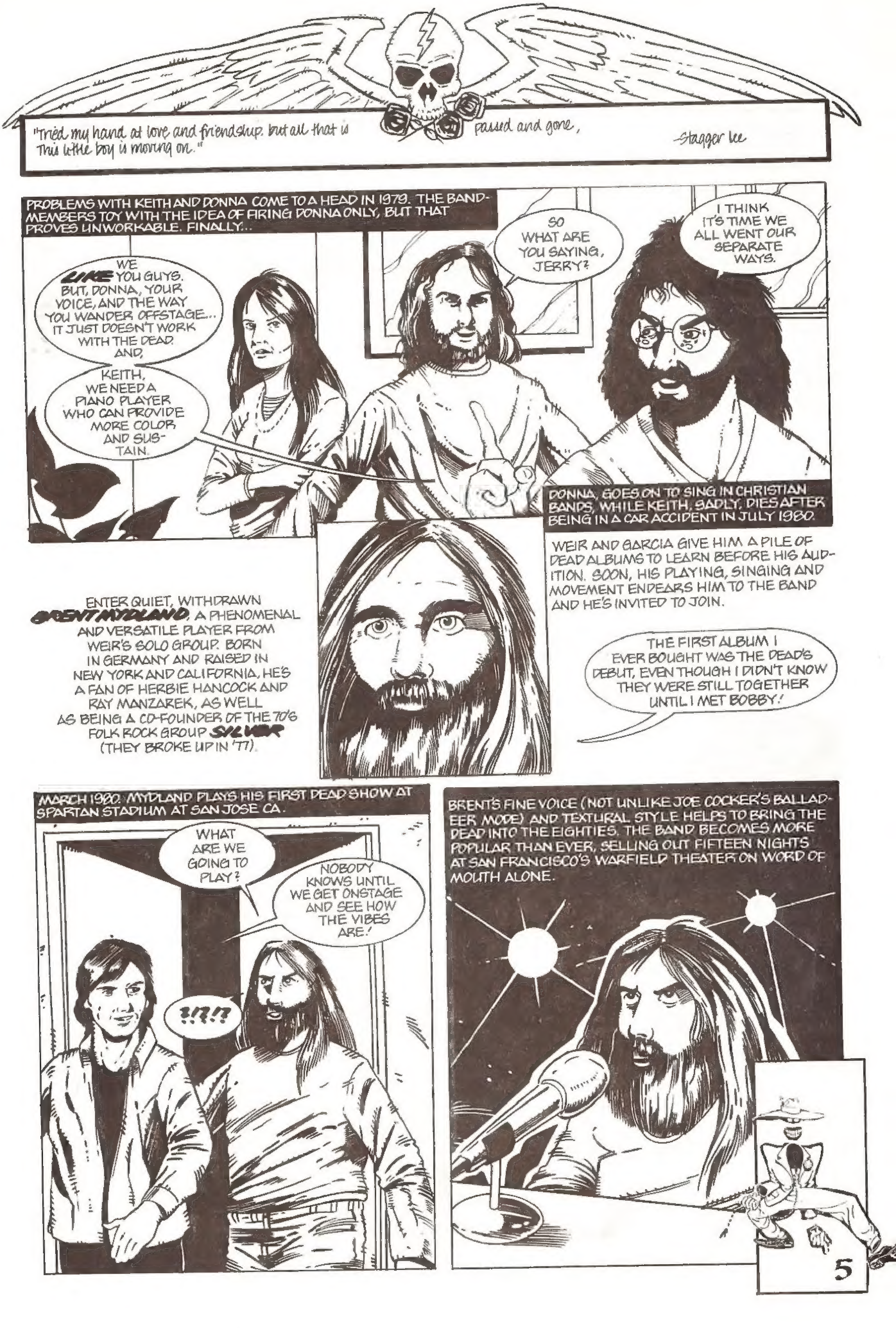
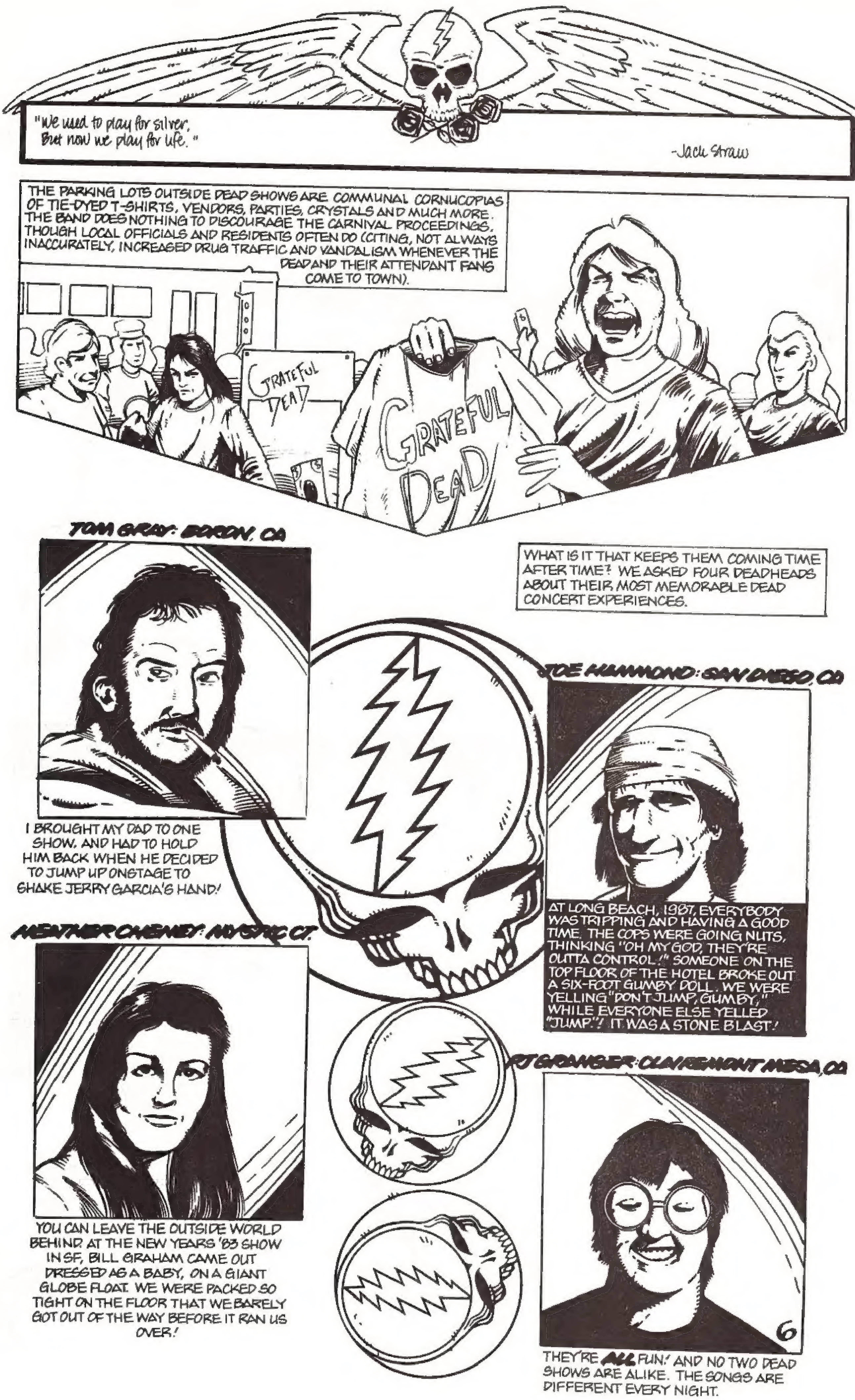
"arabian wind, the needle's eye is thin, The ships of state sail on mirage..."
-Blues For allah
THE PYRAMIDS ARE A PLACE OF ULTIMATE POWER, KARMIC MOJO AND RAW ENERGY... IF WE CAN GET CLEARANCE TO DO IT, IT'D BE THE ULTIMATE ACID TEST, ONLY WITHOUT THE ACID! THE HIGH WOULD BE SPIRITUAL INSTEAD!
THE CAMP DAVID PEACE TALKS HAVE MADE U.S. RELATIONS WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT SOMEWHAT WARMER.
FOR PERMISSION TO DO A THREE NIGHT STINT AT THE SPHINX AMPITHEATER, THE DEAD AGREES TO DONATE PROFITS TO EGYPTIAN CHARITIES LIKE THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTIQUITIES.
PLANS ARE FINALIZED, EVERYONE GETS THEIR SHOTS AND PASSPORTS, AND THE STAGE IS SET FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED DESERT SPECTACLE.
BILL GRAHAM AND KEN KESEY FLY OUT AHEAD OF TIME, JUST TO BE THERE WHEN THE DEAD SERENADE THE LAND OF THE PHAROAHS (AS FORETOLD IN ANCIENT RUNES? "AND THE DEAD SHALL MOVE THE SAND AS THEIR WORDS CAUSE THE VERY AIR TO CRUMBLE." -TAO DSING CH4/VII)
BILL KREUTZMANN HAS A BROKEN ARM (FROM FALLING OFF A HORSE), BUT THE SHOW GOES ON AS SCHEDULED, WITH A GRATEFUL DEAD FLAG EMBLAZONED ATOP THE GREAT PYRAMID ITSELF.

"Maybe that's 'cause it's midnight,
In the dark of the moon besides."
-Shakedown Street
THEY PLAY SEPTEMBER 14TH THROUGH 16TH 1978, JOINED ONSTAGE BY EGYPTIAN MUSICIANS. AN ATTEMPT TO WIRE THE PYRAMID FOR SOUND FAILS, BUT A MORE THAN ACCEPTABLE SPECTACLE IS PROVIDED BY A TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON ON THE THIRD NIGHT.
WHEN THE DEAD RETURN TO SF, MICKEY HART STAYS ON TO RECORD NATIVE PLAYERS FOR A FUTURE SOLO ALBUM.
WE SPENT $500,000.00 ON THE PYRAMID TRIP, BUT WE SURE GOT OFF, HUH BOB?
YEAH, BUT NOW WE'VE GOTTA DO ANOTHER ALBUM. WOTTA DRAG.
I TALKED TO LOWELL GEORGE, FROM LITTLE FEAT, AND HE'S INTERESTED IN PRODUCING IT.
WEIRD! HE DOESN'T EVEN PRODUCE HIS OWN BAND!
-MENU
GOLDEN DRAGO
CHINE
RESTAU
IN FACT, HERE HE IS NOW! HOW'S IT GOIN', LOWELL?
NOT TOO BAD, JERRY. SAY, WHAT'S WITH ALL THE BROKEN GLASS AND, UM, BLOOD?
THE RES-TAURANT HAD A GANG SHOOT-ING LAST NIGHT.
?!?! THIS IS GONNA BE AN INTERESTING COL-LABORATION.
THANKS TO SHAKE-DOWN STREET'S POP PRODUCTION*, IT RECEIVES HEAVY RADIO PLAY, ESPECIALLY WEIR'S "I NEED A MIRACLE", THE COVER OF THE RASCALS' "GOOD LOVIN'" AND THE SPRY TITLE SONG.
IT REACHES #41, AND THE DEAD CELEBRATE ITS RE-LEASE WITH A DECEMBER 31ST SHOW AT WINTERLAND (THE VENUE'S FINAL CONCERT) WITH THE BLUES BROTHERS AND OTHERS.
*LOWELL ALSO PRODUCES WEIR'S HEAVEN HELP THE FOOL LP.


"Tried my hand at love and friendship: but all that is passed and gone,
This little boy is moving on."
-Stagger Lee
PROBLEMS WITH KEITH AND DONNA COME TO A HEAD IN 1979. THE BAND-MEMBERS TOY WITH THE IDEA OF FIRING DONNA ONLY, BUT THAT PROVES UNWORKABLE. FINALLY...
WE LIKE YOU GUYS. BUT, DONNA, YOUR VOICE, AND THE WAY YOU WANDER OFFSTAGE... IT JUST DOESN'T WORK WITH THE DEAD. AND,
KEITH, WE NEED A PIANO PLAYER WHO CAN PROVIDE MORE COLOR AND SUS-TAIN.
SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, JERRY?
I THINK IT'S TIME WE ALL WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS.
DONNA, GOES ON TO SING IN CHRISTIAN BANDS, WHILE KEITH, SADLY, DIES AFTER BEING IN A CAR ACCIDENT IN JULY 1980.
ENTER QUIET, WITHDRAWN BRENT MYDLAND, A PHENOMENAL AND VERSATILE PLAYER FROM WEIR'S SOLO GROUP. BORN IN GERMANY AND RAISED IN NEW YORK AND CALIFORNIA, HE'S A FAN OF HERBIE HANCOCK AND RAY MANZAREK, AS WELL AS BEING A CO-FOUNDER OF THE 70'S FOLK ROCK GROUP SILVER (THEY BROKE UP IN '77).
WEIR AND GARCIA GIVE HIM A PILE OF DEAD ALBUMS TO LEARN BEFORE HIS AUD-ITION. SOON, HIS PLAYING, SINGING AND MOVEMENT ENDEARS HIM TO THE BAND AND HE'S INVITED TO JOIN.
THE FIRST ALBUM I EVER BOUGHT WAS THE DEAD'S DEBUT, EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE STILL TOGETHER UNTIL I MET BOBBY!
MARCH 1980: MYDLAND PLAYS HIS FIRST DEAD SHOW AT SPARTAN STADIUM AT SAN JOSE CA.
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO PLAY?
NOBODY KNOWS UNTIL WE GET ONSTAGE AND SEE HOW THE VIBES ARE!
?!?!?
BRENT'S FINE VOICE (NOT UNLIKE JOE COCKER'S BALLAD-EER MODE) AND TEXTURAL STYLE HELPS TO BRING THE DEAD INTO THE EIGHTIES. THE BAND BECOMES MORE POPULAR THAN EVER, SELLING OUT FIFTEEN NIGHTS AT SAN FRANCISCO'S WARFIELD THEATER ON WORD OF MOUTH ALONE.


"We used to play for silver,
But now we play for life."
-Jack Straw
THE PARKING LOTS OUTSIDE DEAD SHOWS ARE COMMUNAL CORNUCOPIAS OF TIE-DYED T-SHIRTS, VENDORS, PARTIES, CRYSTALS AND MUCH MORE. THE BAND DOES NOTHING TO DISCOURAGE THE CARNIVAL PROCEEDINGS, THOUGH LOCAL OFFICIALS AND RESIDENTS OFTEN DO (CITING, NOT ALWAYS INACCURATELY, INCREASED DRUG TRAFFIC AND VANDALISM WHENEVER THE DEAD AND THEIR ATTENDANT FANS COME TO TOWN).
GRATEFUL DEAD
GRATEFUL DEAD
TOM GRAY: BORON, CA
WHAT IS IT THAT KEEPS THEM COMING TIME AFTER TIME? WE ASKED FOUR DEADHEADS ABOUT THEIR MOST MEMORABLE DEAD CONCERT EXPERIENCES.
I BROUGHT MY DAD TO ONE SHOW, AND HAD TO HOLD HIM BACK WHEN HE DECIDED TO JUMP UP ONSTAGE TO SHAKE JERRY GARCIA'S HAND!
JOE HAMMOND: SAN DIEGO, CA
AT LONG BEACH, 1987, EVERYBODY WAS TRIPPING AND HAVING A GOOD TIME. THE COPS WERE GOING NUTS, THINKING "OH MY GOD, THEY'RE OUTTA CONTROL!" SOMEONE ON THE TOP FLOOR OF THE HOTEL BROKE OUT A SIX-FOOT GUMBY DOLL. WE WERE YELLING "DON'T JUMP, GUMBY," WHILE EVERYONE ELSE YELLED "JUMP."! IT WAS A STONE BLAST!
HEATHER CHENEY: MYSTIC CT.
YOU CAN LEAVE THE OUTSIDE WORLD BEHIND. AT THE NEW YEARS '83 SHOW IN SF, BILL GRAHAM CAME OUT DRESSED AS A BABY, ON A GIANT GLOBE FLOAT. WE WERE PACKED SO TIGHT ON THE FLOOR THAT WE BARELY GOT OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE IT RAN US OVER!
PJ GRANGER: CLAIREMONT MESA, CA
THEY'RE ALL FUN! AND NO TWO DEAD SHOWS ARE ALIKE. THE SONGS ARE DIFFERENT EVERY NIGHT.
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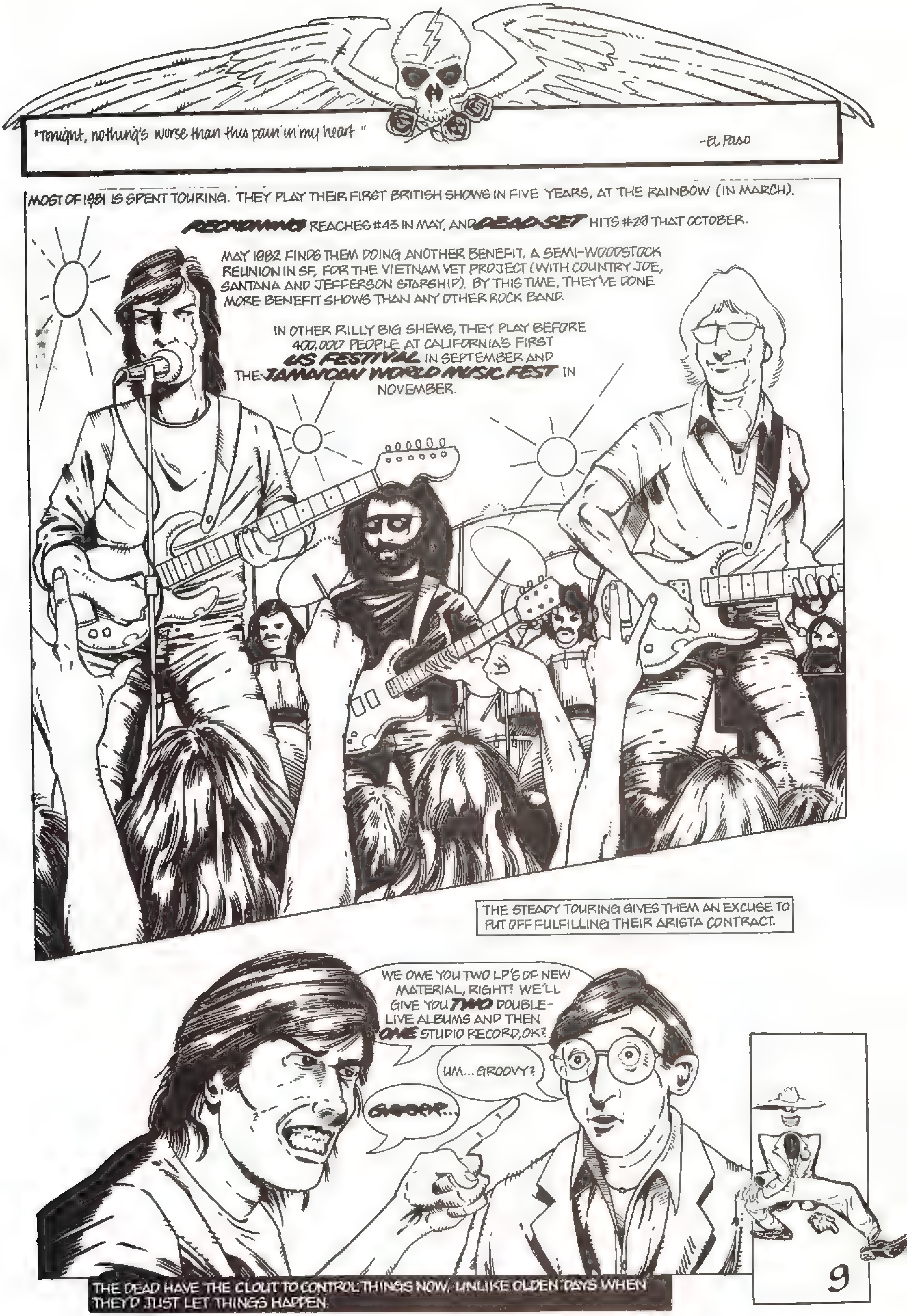
"There was something I had caught inside, screamed hard to make it go, and tied me down low..."
-Far From Me
MYDLAND'S STRONG PRESENCE EASES THE BAND INTO THE MAINSTREAM ON 1980'S *GO TO HEAVEN* LP, AS HE WRITES TWO TRACKS AND DRESSES UP THE OTHER SIX. THE ALBUM (FEATURING THEIR FIRST COVER POSE, ALBEIT IN WHITE SUITS?!) HITS #23, AND THE SINGLE "ALABAMA GETAWAY" (WITH MYDLAND'S "FAR FROM ME" ON THE B-SIDE) SCORES AT #68.
SOME PEOPLE THINK THE NEW ALBUM IS A REAL SELLOUT, JERRY. I MEAN, THE PRODUCER, GARY LYONS, DOES BANDS LIKE FOREIGNER AND AEROSMITH!
I DON'T CARE, BOBBY, WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DO A LOT OF THOSE SONGS *LIVE*, BUT I'M HAPPY WITH IT.
UH, JERRY, YOU'VE DONE A LOT OF LINES ALREADY TODAY, HAVEN'T YOU?
MMMM? SO?
THE NEW LIVE SHOWS FEATURE AN ELABORATE DRUM SETUP KNOWN AS *THE BEAST*, ADDING A NEW PERCUSSIVE DEPTH AND RESONANCE (YOU CAN HEAR HART AND FRIENDS JAMMING IN THE BELLY OF THE BEAST ON THE *APOCALYPSE NOW* SOUNDTRACK.)
ONE LEGENDARY SET TAKES PLACE IN JUNE 1980. JUST AS THE BAND LAUNCHES INTO "FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN", MT. SAINT HELENS ERUPTS IN VOLCANIC FURY, LEAVING ASH ON THE CARS IN THE CONCERT PARKING LOT!
"almost ablaze, still you don't feel the heat, it takes all you got just to stay on the beat... fire, fire on the mountain!"

"Lit up and flashing like the reds and blues, out there on the neon avenue."
-Feel Like a Stranger
JULY 2ND 1980, AT THE SAN DIEGO SPORTS ARENA.
HEY, MICKEY, YOU SEE THAT?
YEAH, BOB, THEY'RE BUSTIN' THAT GUY, AND IT LOOKED LIKE ALL HE WAS DOING WAS SMOKING A JOINT.
MAN, YOU SHOULDN'T HASSLE THIS GUY! THIS IS OUR SHOW, AND WE DIDN'T LIKE TO SEE PEOPLE GET PUSHED AROUND.
WHADDYA OWN THE ARENA BOY?
NO, WE'RE JUST THE ONES PAYING YOU! WE'RE THE BAND!
FINE, NOW I KNOW WHO TO ARREST! UNIT B REQUESTING ASSISTANCE...
WEIR AND HART ARE ARRESTED (AND RELEASED) FOR SUSPICION OF INCITING A RIOT. THE CHARGES ARE LATER DROPPED *
*SAN DIEGO-AMERICA'S FINEST POLICE STATE! -TSL.
IN SEPTEMBER, THEY RECORD SHOWS IN SF AND NY'S RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. THE OPENING ACOUSTIC SET IS CAPTURED FOR THE DOUBLE-LIVE RECKONING LP, AND THE ELECTRIC SONG APPEAR ON THE DEAD SET (BOTH RELEASED THE FOLLOWING YEAR).
THE MEDIA COVERAGE INCREASES AS THE DEAD APPEAR IN MAGAZINES AND ON TV SHOWS LIKE THE SHOWTIME PAY-SPECIAL (FROM RADIO CITY), THE TODAY-SHOW, GOOD MORNING AMERICA AND THE TOMORROW SHOW, WHERE UNCTUOUS HOST TOM SNYDER ASKS THE IMMORTAL QUESTION.
SO, JERRY, HAS LSD HAD ANY LONG TERM EFFECT ON YOU? *
*SNYDER INTERVIEWED MANY ROCK GREATS, BUT DISPLAYED VIRTUAL IGNORANCE OF THE MUSIC AND ITS HISTORY. -TSL
8


"Tonight, nothing's worse than this pain in my heart"
-El Paso
MOST OF 1981 IS SPENT TOURING. THEY PLAY THEIR FIRST BRITISH SHOWS IN FIVE YEARS, AT THE RAINBOW (IN MARCH).
RECKONING REACHES #43 IN MAY, AND DEAD SET HITS #29 THAT OCTOBER.
MAY 1982 FINDS THEM DOING ANOTHER BENEFIT, A SEMI-WOODSTOCK REUNION IN SF, FOR THE VIETNAM VET PROJECT (WITH COUNTRY JOE, SANTANA AND JEFFERSON STARSHIP). BY THIS TIME, THEY'VE DONE MORE BENEFIT SHOWS THAN ANY OTHER ROCK BAND.
IN OTHER BILLY BIG SHEWS, THEY PLAY BEFORE 400,000 PEOPLE AT CALIFORNIA'S FIRST US FESTIVAL IN SEPTEMBER AND THE JAMAICAN WORLD MUSIC FEST IN NOVEMBER.
THE STEADY TOURING GIVES THEM AN EXCUSE TO PUT OFF FULFILLING THEIR ARISTA CONTRACT.
WE OWE YOU TWO LP'S OF NEW MATERIAL, RIGHT? WE'LL GIVE YOU TWO DOUBLE-LIVE ALBUMS AND THEN ONE STUDIO RECORD, OK?
UM... GROOVY?
THE DEAD HAVE THE CLOUT TO CONTROL THINGS NOW, UNLIKE OLDEN DAYS WHEN THEY'D JUST LET THINGS HAPPEN.

"Rosy red and electric blue,
I bought you a paddle for your paper canoe."

– Cosmic Charlie

"Ooh I'm a hyper-survivor,
Fast driver, star driver (fool)."
-Heaven Help The Fool
NOWADAYS IT'S A 'SERIOUS' BAND, WITH SERIOUS COMMITMENTS AND CONCERNS. FROM THE STAGE, BOB WEIR SERVES UP HIS MOST POLITICAL LYRICAL SPITWAD.
MONEY GREEN OR PROLETARIAN GRAY, SELLING GUNS INSTEAD OF FOOD TODAY, SO THE KIDS THEY DANCE AND SHAKE THEIR BONES WHILE THE POLITICIANS ARE THROWIN' STONES...
"...SINGING 'ASHES ASHES, ALL FALL DOWN, ASHES ASHES, ALL FALL DOWN!' "
IN 1983, THERE ARE SPLINTER(ING) SOLO PROJECTS APLENTY:
JERRY GARCIA BAND
BOBBY AND THE MIDNITES
THE RHYTHM DEVILS
THE DINOSAURS
THE NET EFFECT IS A PAUCITY OF ACTUAL DEAD PROJECTS THROUGH 1984 (BESIDES SPORADIC TOURS).

"Well you know son, you just can't figure. First thing you know, you're going to pull that trigger."
Dupree's Diamond Blues
WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS 'TIL WE'RE ALL BLUE IN THE FACE, JERRY. YOUR "PROBLEM" IS REALLY AFFECTING YOU!
YOUR PLAYING IS SO NUMB LATELY!
LOOK, MAN, WE LOVE YOU, WE CARE! THAT'S WHY WE'RE DOING THIS!
YOU'VE GOTTA CHOOSE US OR THE DRUGS! YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN OF YOUR OWN SHIP, JERRY!
I...I...JESUS, BOBBY!
YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT. I USED TO KNOW WHAT I COULD HANDLE, BUT I JUST STOPPED CARING AND KEEPING TRACK. SHIT PILED UP, I KNOW..
I'M PUTTING A STOP TO IT. I SWEAR! I CARE, TOO!
DAYS LATER, ON JANUARY 18TH, JERRY'S SITTING IN HIS BMW IN GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO.

"Tonight, nothing's worse than this pain in my heart"
-El Paso
HMMM. EXPIRED REGISTRATION STICKER.
124B57
DEC 84
DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR...
SHIT!!! ≷COUGH≶
SNIFF SNIFF.. HEY, THAT'S POT.
+ PROBABLE CAUSE/SEARCH + BUST= PROMOTION!
COME OUTTA THERE WITH YOUR HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM.
HIS BRIEFCASE IS FOUND TO CONTAIN 23 PACKETS OF HEROIN AND COCAINE, AND HE'S ARRESTED.
I SWEAR, BOBBY, I WAS GETTING RID OF THE SHIT! THAT'S WHY I HAD IT ALL WITH ME.
DAMNIT, JERRY, YOU'D BETTER BE STRAIGHT WITH ME!

"I may be going to hell in a bucket, baby, But at least I'll enjoy the ride."
-Hell in a Bucket
HE GOES TO COURT IN FEBRUARY.
I HEREBY ORDER YOU TO ENTER THE MARIN COUNTY DRUG DIVERSION PROGRAM.
IT TAKES HIM NEARLY A YEAR TO CLEAN UP...
THROUGH SUMMER 1986, THEY TOUR WITH TOM PETTY AND BOB DYLAN, AND RECORD A NEW THEME FOR THE TWILIGHT ZONE TV REVIVAL (AS WELL AS PROVIDING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FOR VARIOUS EPISODES, AS DOES MERL SAUNDERS).
JULY 10TH 1986, AT GARCIA'S SAN RAFAEL HOME: JERRY IS RECOVERING FROM A PAINFUL TOOTHACHE.
MAN, I'M SO DIZZY AND TIRED ALL OF A SUDDEN. I'D BETTER JUST SIT DOWN FOR AWHILE...
HE WAKES UP FIVE DAYS LATER... IN THE HOSPITAL!
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED, DOC?
YOU WERE IN A DIABETIC COMA.
?!?!?
PLUS, YOU WERE SO DEHYDRATED THAT YOUR BLOOD LOOKED LIKE MUD!
WILL.. WILL IT AFFECT MY GUITAR PLAYING?
YOUR MUSCLE CO-ORDINATION MIGHT BE AFFECTED FOR AWHILE. I'D TAKE IT EASY BEFORE PUSHING IT, IF I WERE YOU.

"Inspiration, move me brightly. Light the song with sense and color.
Hold away my despair, more than this I will not ask."
-Terrapin Station
HE RECUPERATES AT HOME, WITH FRIENDS LIKE MERL SAUNDERS AND BOB WEIR DROPPING BY OFTEN TO PROVIDE ENCOURAGEMENT.
WE'VE GOTTEN THOUSANDS OF LETTERS AT THE OFFICE! ALL THE DEADHEADS ARE CONCERNED!
THAT REALLY HELPS, BOBBY.
ONE OF THE FEW ADVANTAGES OF HAVING SUCH A PUBLIC LIFE IS THE GROUNDSWELL OF LOVE AND SUPPORT FROM PEOPLE WHO GENUINELY CARE ABOUT SOMETHING OTHER THAN MISSILES AND MONEY AND BULLSHIT LIKE THAT!
ROBERT HUNTER DROPS BY, AND TOGETHER THEY COMPOSE "BLACK MUDDY RIVER."
"WHEN IT SEEMS LIKE THIS NIGHT COULD LAST FOREVER, AND THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO BUT COUNT THE YEARS... I WILL WALK ALONE BY THE BLACK MUDDY RIVER AND BELIEVE IN A DREAM OF MY OWN."
IT'S AMAZING, ROB. THE MUSIC IS JUST SPILLING OUT ALL OVER! FOR MONTHS, I COULDN'T HAVE CARED LESS ABOUT WRITING NEW SONGS. WE WERE JUST GONNA RECORD SOME OLD TUNES. BUT NOW THAT YOU AND I ARE WORKING TOGETHER...
YEAH, THERE'S A LOT OF KARMIC LIFE, A HUGE COMMITMENT, IN THE THINGS WE DO AT A TIME LIKE THIS. YOU'RE STARTING A WHOLE NEW LIFE NOW. EVERY THING, EVERY NEW SONG, EVERY DECISION BECOMES INTEGRAL. STEPPING STONES AND CORNERSTONES
EVERY DECISION... MY MOST IMPORTANT ONE RIGHT NOW IS TO STAY CLEAN!
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"Ten years the waves roll the ships home from the sea, thinkin' well how it may blow in all good company."
-It must Have Been the Roses
IN DECEMBER 1986, THE BAND RETURNS TO THE ROAD FOR THEIR FIRST GIGS SINCE JERRY'S COLLAPSE. THE FEELING AND EMOTION, BOTH ONSTAGE AND IN THE AUDIENCE, IS OF RENEWAL AND (MOST OF ALL) SURVIVAL.
ONE SONG (WHICH THEY'D BEEN PERFORMING FOR SOME TIME ALREADY) SAYS MUCH TO MANY
"Oh well, a touch of gray, kind of suits you anyway. It's all I really meant to say. It's all right... I will survive."
THE SUMMER TOUR WITH BOB DYLAN IS CAPTURED ON TAPE (LATER OUT AS DYLAN AND THE DEAD).
IT'S QUITE A FEAT, HAVING SURVIVED THREE DECADES IN THIS BUSINESS, HUH, BOB?
UH-HUH! SAY YOU GOT A JOINT TO FIRE UP? FER OLD TIMES?
NOT EVEN! I'VE GOT CERTS AND CAFFEINE GUM, NOTHING STRONGER.
RIGHT ON!
LISSEN, SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANIN' TO ASK. I'VE HAD PROBLEMS WITH PEOPLE SELLING BOOTLEG TAPES OF MY CONCERTS. MY FANS AREN'T AS ALTRUISTIC AS YOURS, THEY DON'T SWAP.
SO YOU DON'T WANT US LETTING THE TAPERS IN WHILE WE TOUR TOGETHER? I'LL BRING IT UP.
THE DECREE IS PASSED AND TAPE MACHINES ARE VERBOTEN FOR THE REST OF THE TOUR.
YOU GUYS ARE GONNA RECORD "TOUCH OF GRAY", I HEAR.
YEAH, WE GO BACK TO THE STUDIO THIS WINTER. WE'VE GOT A LOT OF NEW SONGS, BUT I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU THAT I'M A LITTLE GUN SHY. IT'S BEEN OVER SIX YEARS SINCE WE'VE DONE A RECORD IN THE STUDIO!
IT HARDLY SEEMS WORTH SPENDING ALL THAT TIME AND MONEY PRODUCING, WRITING AND TRICKING IT UP, ONLY TO HAVE IT 100% IGNORED BY THE STRAIGHT PRESS AND THE DREADED MTV GENERATION!
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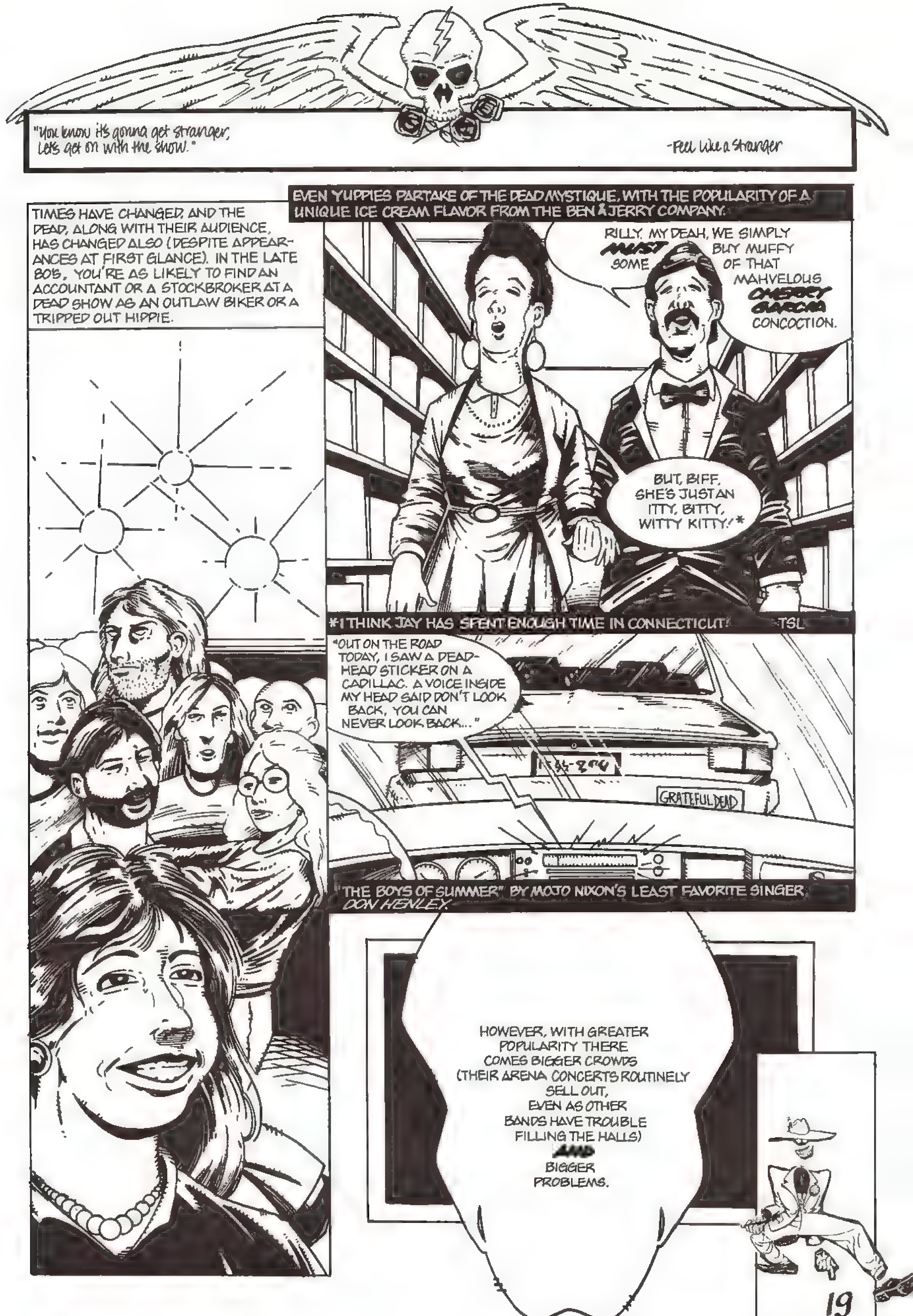
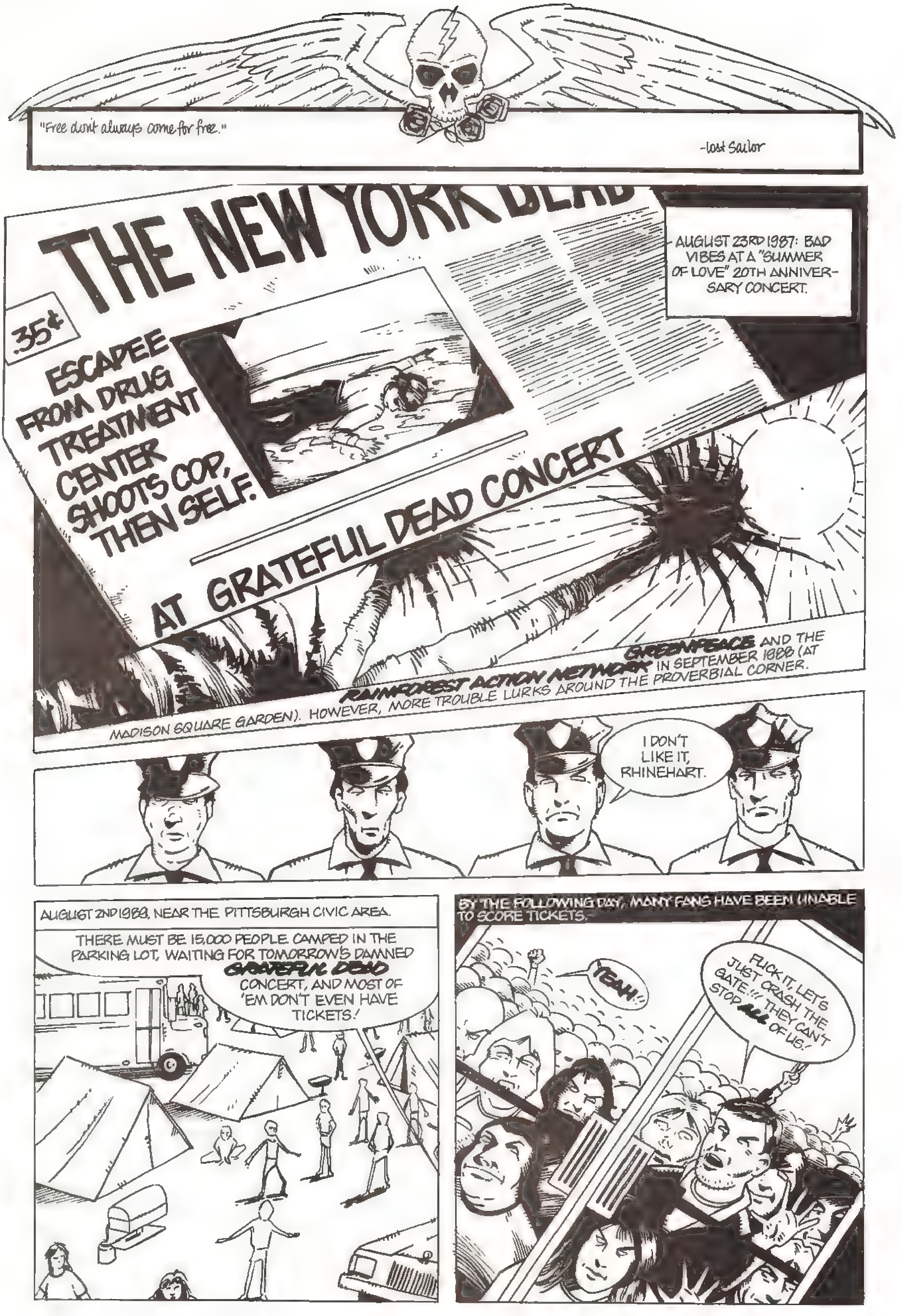
"I only want to hold you, I don't want to tie you down, or fit you in the lines I might've drawn."
-Looks Like Rain
SURPRISING MANY, THE "TOUCH OF GRAY" VIDEO CATCHES ON, GRACING MTV AND ITS MELLOW REFLECTION VH1. 1987'S IN THE DARK ALBUM IS THEIR BIGGEST HIT AT #6 (LOOK FOR ROBERT HUNTER'S EYES ON THE PEEKABOO COVER, RE-AFFIRMING THE LYRICIST'S BAND STATURE). THEIR FIRST PLATINUM LP ALSO YIELDS A #9 SINGLE WITH "TOUCH OF GRAY."
IN LATE 1987, THE 45 YEAR OLD GARCIA BECOMES A FATHER ONCE AGAIN (SPEAKING OF RENEWAL...).
I'LL CALL HER KEELIN, AND I SWEAR I'LL HELP RAISE HER, DO THINGS WITH HER!
I'VE NEVER GOTTEN OVER MY GUILT TRIP FOR HAVING SO LITTLE TO DO WITH THE LIVES OF MY OTHER DAUGHTERS.
JERRY TAKES A MORE ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE GOINGS ON AT THE DEAD OFFICES.
JERRY, I THOUGHT YOU WERE CONSTITUTIONALLY INCAPABLE OF TAKING ANYTHING SERIOUSLY!
WELL, I JUST WANTED TO CATCH UP ON THE HOT-LINE AND THE LETTERS.
THE PHONE LINE HAS BEEN UPDATED WITH ALL THE UPCOMING SHOWS AND RECORDING PLANS, AND THE TICKET SALES NETWORK IS DOING TERRIFIC. IT ALL COSTS VERY LITTLE TO RUN.
WE'VE GOTTEN A LOT OF LETTERS OF CONCERN ALSO, MR. GARCIA.
THAT'S MY DAD'S NAME. JUST CALL ME JERRY.
THEY'RE ALL WORRIED ABOUT YOU, MAN!
AND NOT JUST ABOUT HIS NON-DRUG VIGILANCE...HIS WEIGHT IS UP TO NEARLY 300 POUNDS.

"If you hear that same sweet song again, will you know why anyone who sings a tune so sweet is passin' by."
-Bird Song
I SEE RELIX IS STILL RUNNING, THOUGH THEY'RE COVERING OTHER BANDS NOW.
THE GOLDEN ROAD STILL PUBLISHES, TOO. THE TAPERS AND CONCERT COWBOYS HAVE TAKEN OVER THEIR CLASSIFIED SECTIONS.
HELL, THE TAPERS HAVE THEIR OWN MAGAZINE, TOO. PLUS THERE'S A BOOK OF ALL OUR SET LISTS, ANOTHER ONE WITH OUR LYRIC SHEETS...
YEAH, BUT THAT KIND OF THING IS WHY WE STRIVE SO HARD TO KEEP IT ALL TOGETHER. THE DEVOTION, THE FANS, THE LOVE AND ENERGY...
I JUST WISH THAT HARDCORE DEAD HEADS WERE MORE DISCERNING! EVEN WHEN WE PLAY A BAD SET, THEY ACT LIKE IT'S THE GREATEST THING THEY EVER SAW!
IT'S HARD TO GET AN OBJECTIVE PERCEPTION AND OUTLOOK WHEN YOU DON'T GO BEYOND "THE FAMILY".
I THINK THAT'S WHY OUR SOLO PROJECTS ARE SO IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US.
HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
SOME ACCESS TV SHOW THE KIDS DO, CALLED DIY-DEAD TELEVISION! IT'S ON TWENTY-FIVE CABLE SYSTEMS NOW!
WOW!
SOMETIMES IT SEEMS AS IF THE YOUNGER FANS ARE CO-OPTING A PREVIOUS GENERATION'S NOSTALGIA. BUT, REALLY, IT'S MORE OF A RE-INTERPRETATION OF THE SIXTIES RAGA, RATHER THAN A MERE RE-MAKE.



"You know it's gonna get stranger, let's get on with the show."
-Feel Like a Stranger
TIMES HAVE CHANGED, AND THE DEAD, ALONG WITH THEIR AUDIENCE, HAS CHANGED ALSO (DESPITE APPEARANCES AT FIRST GLANCE). IN THE LATE 80'S, YOU'RE AS LIKELY TO FIND AN ACCOUNTANT OR A STOCKBROKER AT A DEAD SHOW AS AN OUTLAW BIKER OR A TRIPPED OUT HIPPIE.
EVEN YUPPIES PARTAKE OF THE DEAD MYSTIQUE, WITH THE POPULARITY OF A UNIQUE ICE CREAM FLAVOR FROM THE BEN & JERRY COMPANY.
RILLY, MY DEAH, WE SIMPLY MUST BUY MUFFY SOME OF THAT MAHVELOUS CHERRY GARCIA CONCOCTION.
BUT, BIFF, SHE'S JUST AN ITTY, BITTY, WITTY KITTY!*
*I THINK JAY HAS SPENT ENOUGH TIME IN CONNECTICUT! TSL
"OUT ON THE ROAD TODAY, I SAW A DEADHEAD STICKER ON A CADILLAC. A VOICE INSIDE MY HEAD SAID DON'T LOOK BACK, YOU CAN NEVER LOOK BACK..."
GRATEFUL DEAD
"THE BOYS OF SUMMER" BY MOJO NIXON'S LEAST FAVORITE SINGER, DON HENLEY.
HOWEVER, WITH GREATER POPULARITY THERE COMES BIGGER CROWDS (THEIR ARENA CONCERTS ROUTINELY SELL OUT, EVEN AS OTHER BANDS HAVE TROUBLE FILLING THE HALLS) AND BIGGER PROBLEMS.

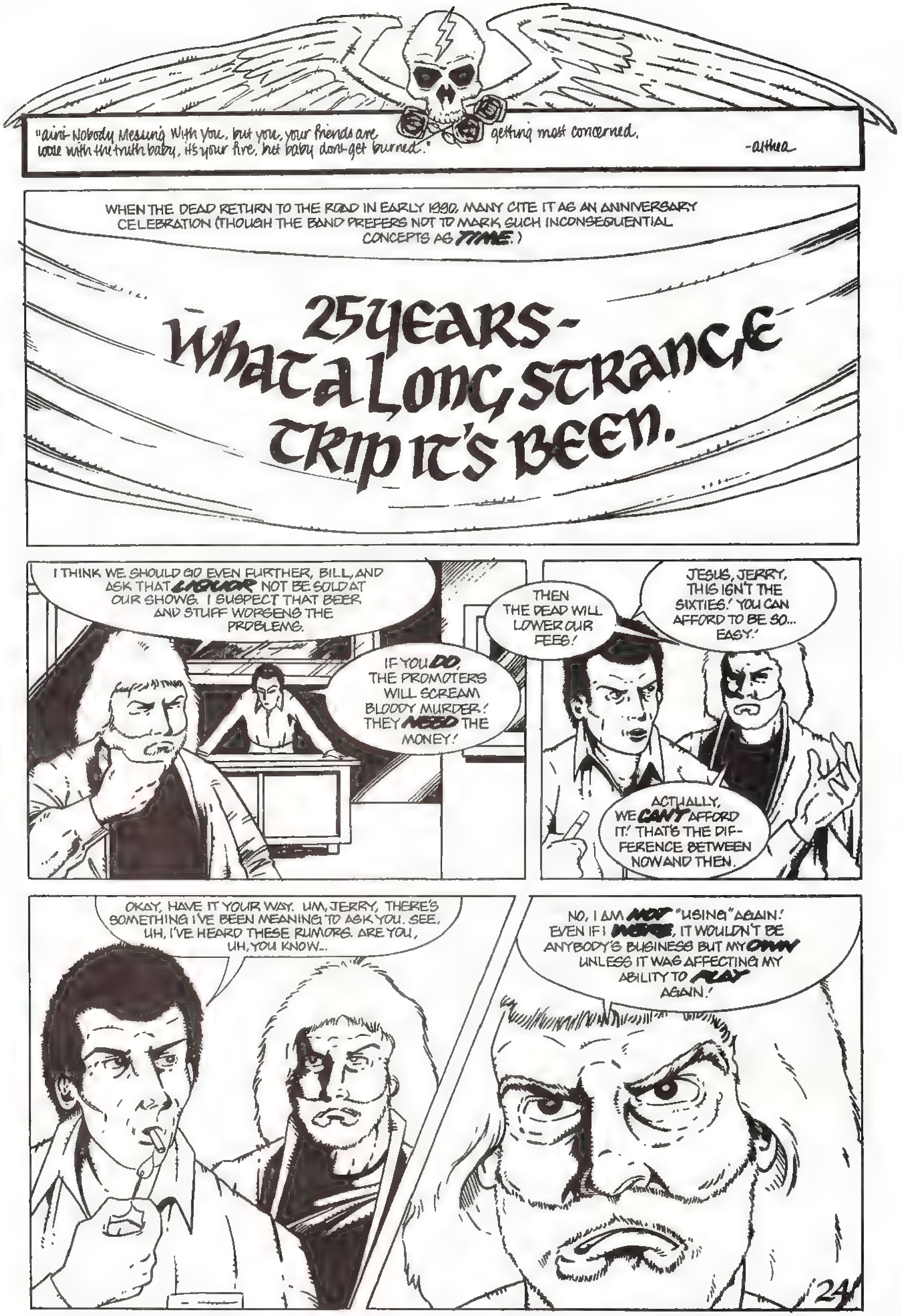


"Free don't always come for free."
-Lost Sailor
THE NEW YORK DEAD
.35¢
ESCAPEE FROM DRUG TREATMENT CENTER SHOOTS COP, THEN SELF.
AT GRATEFUL DEAD CONCERT
AUGUST 23RD 1987: BAD VIBES AT A "SUMMER OF LOVE" 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT.
GREENPEACE AND THE RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK IN SEPTEMBER 1988 (AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN). HOWEVER, MORE TROUBLE LURKS AROUND THE PROVERBIAL CORNER.
I DON'T LIKE IT, RHINEHART.
AUGUST 2ND 1989, NEAR THE PITTSBURGH CIVIC AREA.
THERE MUST BE 15,000 PEOPLE CAMPED IN THE PARKING LOT, WAITING FOR TOMORROW'S DAMNED GRATEFUL DEAD CONCERT, AND MOST OF 'EM DON'T EVEN HAVE TICKETS!
BY THE FOLLOWING DAY, MANY FANS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SCORE TICKETS.
YEAH!!
FUCK IT, LET'S JUST CRASH THE GATE!!! THEY CAN'T STOP ALL OF US!

"It's that 'ol same thing, now tell me who's to blame
The whole world is fighting about that ol' same thing"
-The Same Thing
TWENTY-THREE PEOPLE ARE ARRESTED DURING THE MELEE, GENERATING ANOTHER SLEW OF NEGATIVE PRESS (MOSTLY CRITICAL OF FANS RATHER THAN THE BAND).
...AS POLICE CHIEF, I'VE NOTICED THAT THE DRUG PRESENCE GOES UP SHARPLY WHENEVER THIS ROCK BAND COMES TO TOWN.
WE HAVEN'T HAD AN LSD BUST IN SEVEN MONTHS, BUT SUDDENLY THE STUFF IS TURNING UP IN HIGH SCHOOL LOCKERS!
HAVE YOU BEEN TO A PARKING LOT OUTSIDE OF A GRATEFUL DEAD SHOW?! IT'S LIKE SODOM OUT THERE!
HOW IN THE WORLD CAN YOU TIE A ROCK CONCERT INTO THAT?
ALSO IN 1989, 300 TICKETLESS FANS AT IRVINE MEADOWS CALIFORNIA CRASH THE GATE. 77 PEOPLE ARE ARRESTED OVER THE THREE-DAY STAND, ON CHARGES OF TRESPASSING, DRUGS AND ASSAULTING POLICE.
POLIC
IS IT TRUE THAT MOST OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE TEENAGERS?
UM, YES, I'D SAY THAT'S TRUE. THE OLDER "DEADHEADS" ARE USUALLY QUITE WELL BEHAVED, MUCH MORE SO THAN MOST ROCK CONCERT AUDIENCES!
BUT THERE'S AN ENTIRELY NEW ELEMENT COMING TO THESE SHOWS TODAY. I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF IRVINE CANCELLED ALL GRATEFUL DEAD CONCERTS FROM NOW ON. AND THAT'D BE A DAMNED SHAME.
AFTER SOME BEHIND-THE-SCENES POLITICAL MANEUVERING, THE VENUE DOES INDEED DECLARE A MORATORIUM ON DEAD SHOWS. NOT THAT IT WAS A GREAT PLACE TO SEE THEM ANYWAY.

"What's the point of callin' shots. this cue ain't straight in line. Cueball's made of styrofoam and no one's got the time"
-Mississippi Halfstep Uptown Toledo
INSIDE THE DEAD OFFICES.
IT'S ALL BECOME SO HUGE! WE HAVE TO GET A HANDLE ON THINGS. THE DEAD HAVE BECOME A JUGGERNAUT!
IN 1989, WE DID 74 CONCERTS, SOLD 1.4 MILLION TICKETS AND GROSSED $25 MILLION ONLY THE STONES AND THE WHO OUTSELL US! BUT WE KEEP HAVING THESE PROBLEMS AT THE SHOWS...
WE SHOULD COME STRAIGHT OUT AND TELL THE FANS ABOUT THE TROUBLE SOME OF THEM ARE CAUSING.
YEAH, BUT ONLY A SMALL FRACTION OF THE AUDIENCE IS FUCKING IT UP. WE ALREADY SEND OUR "ETIQUETTE SHEET" WITH EVERY TICKET, WITH TIPS ON HOW TO ACT TOWARDS THE LOCALS, WHERE TO CRASH...
BUT WE'RE NOT EXPLICIT ENOUGH!
I KNOW IT'S KINDA DICTATORIAL, BUT WE NEED TO TELL THEM NOT TO BUY OR SELL DRUGS, OR CAMP OUT AT THE VENUE. AND WE SHOULD START TO DISCOURAGE THE VENDORS WHO FOLLOW US AROUND!
BUT SOME OF THOSE PEOPLE MAKE THEIR LIVING SELLING SHIRTS AND STICKERS AND STUFF
MOST OF THEM ONLY SUPPORT THEIR TRAVEL EXPENSES, TO GET TO THE NEXT DEAD SHOW. I'M NOT SAYING WE SHOULD TELL THEM WHAT TO DO... I JUST DON'T THINK WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE THEM! THERE'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE ALREADY AT THE CONCERTS, AND WE DON'T WANT OUR REAL FANS GETTING CAUGHT UP IN IT!

"Theres just nothing here to hold on to,
Baby nothing to hold on to."
-Far From Me
TROUBLE 'INDEED' ON OCTOBER 14TH
YEAR OLD ADAM KATZ IS FOUND LYING UNCONSCIOUS AFTER A DEAD CONCERT OUTSIDE NEW JERSEY'S BRENDEN BRYNE AREA.
GOOD GOD, IT LOOKS AS IF HE'S BEEN BEATEN!
...REPORTED BY POLICE THAT THE YOUTH HAD TAKEN LSD AND EXPERIENCED A BAD TRIP. HE WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD...
YEAH, IT WAS A "BAD TRIP" ALL RIGHT! HE WAS BEATEN UP BY THOSE FUCKING SECURITY THUGS! I SEE THEM THUMPING ON PEOPLE EVERY TIME WE COME TO THIS TOWN!
THE KID'S PARENTS KNOW THAT EVERYONE AT THE ARENA IS TRYING TO COVER IT UP. I ALMOST HOPE THEY
*THEY DO. THE CASE IS STILL PENDING.
THE BAND VACATIONS FOR A FEW WEEKS BEFORE BEGINNING A NEW TOUR, ENABLING JERRY TO GO TO HAWAII AND DO A LITTLE SCUBA DIVING (AMONG HIS FAVORITE HOBBIES-HE PAINTS ALSO).
BRENT ISN'T ENJOYING HIS TIME OFF, HOWEVER.
MAN, YOU NEARLY OD'D. YOU'RE LUCKY YOU GOT TO THE HOSPITAL ON TIME, BRENT. WHY'D YOU DO IT?!
I DUNNO, BOBBY. I JUST WANTED TO CHEER UP A LITTLE. IT WAS STUPID. I'M GONNA GET SOME COUNSELING, LIKE JERRY DID.
I JUST HOPE IT WORKS BETTER FOR ME THAN IT DID FOR HIM... JERRY'S FALLEN OFF THE WAGON A FEW TIMES ALREADY, I THINK!
23

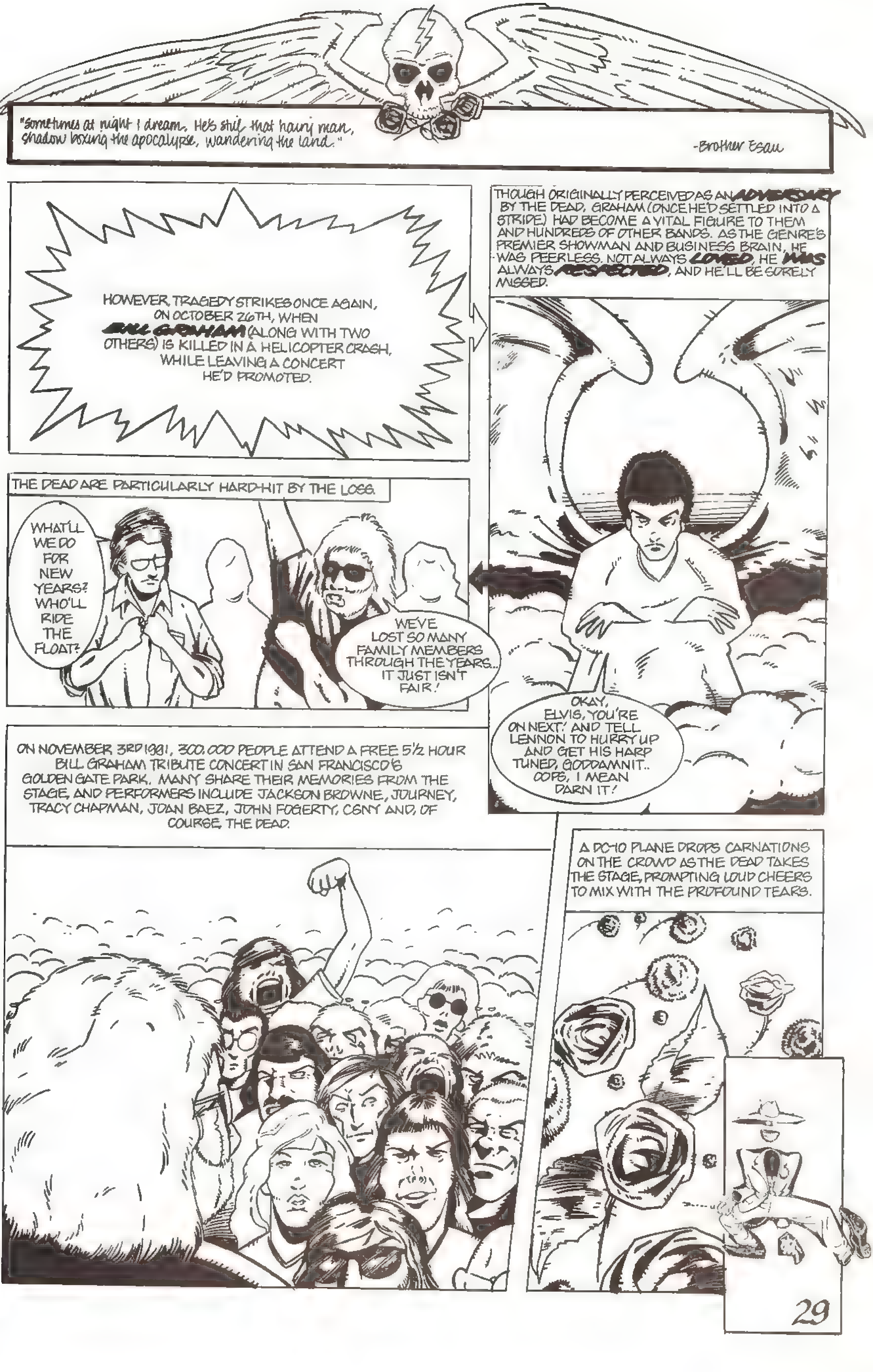

"ain't Nobody Messing With You, but you, your friends are loose with the truth baby, it's your fire, but baby don't get burned." getting most concerned.
-althea
WHEN THE DEAD RETURN TO THE ROAD IN EARLY 1990, MANY CITE IT AS AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION (THOUGH THE BAND PREFERS NOT TO MARK SUCH INCONSEQUENTIAL CONCEPTS AS TIME.)
25 YEARS - What a Long, Strange Trip it's Been.
I THINK WE SHOULD GO EVEN FURTHER, BILL, AND ASK THAT LIQUOR NOT BE SOLD AT OUR SHOWS. I SUSPECT THAT BEER AND STUFF WORSENS THE PROBLEMS.
IF YOU DO, THE PROMOTERS WILL SCREAM BLOODY MURDER! THEY NEED THE MONEY!
THEN THE DEAD WILL LOWER OUR FEES!
JESUS, JERRY, THIS ISN'T THE SIXTIES! YOU CAN AFFORD TO BE SO... EASY!
ACTUALLY, WE CAN'T AFFORD IT! THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NOW AND THEN.
OKAY, HAVE IT YOUR WAY. UM, JERRY, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU. SEE, UH, I'VE HEARD THESE RUMORS. ARE YOU, UH, YOU KNOW...
NO, I AM NOT "USING" AGAIN! EVEN IF I WERE, IT WOULDN'T BE ANYBODY'S BUSINESS BUT MY OWN UNLESS IT WAS AFFECTING MY ABILITY TO PLAY AGAIN!
24

"Fare you well, fare you well, I love you more than words can tell,
listen to the river sing sweet songs to rock my soul."
-Brokedown Palace
SUMMER 1990: WITH OVER 300 SONGS IN THE REPERTOIRE, THERE'S A NEW LP TO PROMOTE (THE APPROPRIATELY NAMED BUILT TO LAST), AS WELL AS A LIVE ALBUM (WITHOUT A NET, WITH BRANFORD MARSALIS PLAYING ON "EYES OF THE WORLD"). THE BEARDED BUDDHA AND HIS MUSICAL COHORTS ARE IN FINE FORM.
AT THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, IN DOMINGUEZ HILLS.
JERRY, THERE'S BEEN A PROBLEM.
OH SHIT, NOT AGAIN!
IT LOOKS LIKE THREE KIDS DIED OUT THERE TONIGHT. THE COPS ARE SAYING THAT THE DEATHS ARE "LSD RELATED".
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?! SHIT!!
THE UNIVERSITY MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THE DEAD ARE NOT WELCOME BACK, AND OTHER CONCERT VENUES FOLLOW SUIT.
JULY 25TH 1990.
HMMM, THAT'S FUNNY. I'VE BEEN TRYING TO CALL BRENT ALL AFTERNOON, BUT THERE'S NO ANSWER. I THOUGHT HE WAS GONNA BE HOME ALL DAY.
THE FOLLOWING MORNING, AT 9AM, CONCERNED FRIENDS GO TO BRENT'S HOME IN LAFAYETTE CA, A SUBURB EAST OF SF, TO CHECK ON HIM.
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
THE DOOR'S OPEN...
GASP
OH MY LORD, NO!!

"And someone says 'you're in the wrong place, my friend, you better leave', and the only sound that's left after the ambulance goes is Cinderella sweeping up on Desolation Row."
-Desolation Row
AN AMBULANCE IS SUMMONED BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE. IT'S LATER FOUND THAT BRENT MYDLAND DIED FROM AN OVERDOSE OF COCAINE AND MORPHINE. THE 37-YEAR OLD MUSICIAN IS SURVIVED BY A WIFE AND TWO DAUGHTERS.
SUCH A DAMNED TRAGEDY. BRENT HAD BECOME THE HEART OF THIS BAND! CAN WE CONTINUE WITHOUT HIM, OR IS IT TIME TO FINALLY LAY THE WHOLE THING TO REST WITH HIM?
AFTER MUCH HEARTFELT DISCUSSION AMONG THE BANDMEMBERS, THE DECISION IS MADE TO CARRY ON. FOR THE TIME BEING, SOULFUL SINGER/KEYBOARDIST BRUCE HORNSBY IS RECRUITED TO MAN THE PIANO.
BUT THE YEAR 1990 IS NOT TO BE PLACID, EVEN IN ITS CLOSING MONTHS. ON DECEMBER 10TH, 19 YEAR OLD PATRICK SHANAHAN IS HAVING A PARTICULARLY BAD LSD TRIP AT AN INGLEWOOD CALIFORNIA DEAD CONCERT.
POLICE TRY TO SUBDUE THE FRENZIED YOUTH. WITNESSES MAKE SOME DISTURBING (UNSUBSTANTIATED) OBSERVATIONS.
THEY SAY THAT A RUBBER BIT WAS FORCED INTO THE YOUTH'S MOUTH (OSTENSIBLY TO KEEP HIM FROM BITING HIMSELF OR THE COPS.
IT'S ALSO REPORTED BY SOME THAT HE WAS TOSSED HEADFIRST INTO THE PADDY WAGON AND LEFT UNATTENDED. NATURALLY, THE POLICE'S ACCOUNT DIFFERS SOMEWHAT FROM THE WITNESSES.
26

"Help on the way, well I know only this, I've got you today
Don't fly away 'cause I love what I love and I want it that way."
-Help on the Way
THE END RESULT IS THE YOUTH'S CHOKING DEATH. APPARENTLY, BETWEEN OVERZEALOUS SECURITY GUARDS AND ROWDY POLICE, A DEADHEAD CAN BE IN GREAT DANGER JUST ATTENDING A CONCERT NOWADAYS.
REMEMBER THE KID WHO DIED IN NEW JERSEY, ADAM KATZ? HIS PARENTS ARE SUING THE VENUE. THOSE SECURITY GUARDS HAD BEEN KNOWN FOR ROUGHHOUSING BEFORE THAT.
AND NOW POOR PATRICK SHANAHAN. SHIT, THIS IS HEAVY STUFF!
SPEAKING OF HEAVY, JERRY IS REUNITED WITH HIS OLDEST DAUGHTER HEATHER (FROM HIS FIRST WIFE SARA KATZ), NOW A CONCERT VIOLINIST.
GOD, I'VE MISSED YOU! LET'S NEVER LOSE TOUCH AGAIN!
I'M DOING PROMOTIONS FOR RAINFOREST CRUNCH CEREAL, 'CAUSE THEY DONATE MONEY TO THE SAME END. PLUS, I'M EVEN WRITING A CHILDREN'S BOOK ABOUT THE RAIN-FOREST!
INTO 1991, THE DEAD CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TOWARD INCREASING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE ALBUM OF DEAD SONGS THAT THEY'RE RECORDING, ALL PERFORMED BY OTHER BANDS?
THE DEADICATED TRIBUTE ALBUM IS OUT IN SUMMER 1991, AND WEIR'S BOOK PANTHER DREAMS IS OUT BY WINTER.
IT'S A GREAT TRIBUTE! THE BEST THING ABOUT IT IS THAT THE MONEY FROM IT IS GOING TO THE RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL.

"Cross my heart and hope to die, I was just hanging out with the other guys, yeah-yeah-yeah-yeah-yeah-yeah-yeah, singing 'Thank you for a real good time.'" - Loose Lucy
OUR WORLD, AND ITS UPKEEP, IS MORE IMPORTANT TO US THAN EVER. NOW THAT WE'RE FINANCIALLY SOLVENT ENOUGH TO BEGIN DOING OUR OWN RECORDS AGAIN*, I WANT TO DO MORE TO MAKE PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THINGS LIKE THE ENVIRONMENT.
*GRATEFUL DEAD MERCHANDISING, WHICH BEGINS PUTTING OUT LIVE ALBUMS, SHIRTS, ETC.
I LIKE THE CARDBOARD CD CASE THAT STING USES FOR HIS NEW ALBUM. THE OLD HARD JEWEL CASE IS SO ECOLOGICALLY UNSOUND AND THE PAPER THAT'S WASTED IN LONGBOX PACKAGING IS OBSCENE!
WE CAN USE THE SAME SORT OF "DIGIPAK" FOR OUR NEW DOUBLE-LIVE RECORD, ONE FROM THE VAULT*
*FROM A 1975 BLUES FOR ALLAH CONCERT.
WE MIGHT ACTUALLY HAVE THE POWER NOW TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT DEFORESTATION, POLLUTION AND ALL THAT SHIT. PEOPLE LISTEN TO US, AND FOR ONCE WE HAVE THE MONEY TO WORK WITH!
YEAH, THE OFFICE SAYS WE GROSSED $20 MILLION THROUGH THE FIRST HALF OF 1991, EVEN THOUGH A LOT OF THAT WENT TOWARDS TOUR EXPENSES.
IN THE FALL OF 1991, THEY DO A SERIES OF SOLD-OUT DATES AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN.
EAD GRATEFUL
SOLD OUT
RollingStone
ROLLING STONE RELEASES A COVER-FEATURE INTERVIEW WITH GARCIA (A HIGHLY HONEST AND INTROSPECTIVE TALK).
KIDS
SEX ABUSE IN AMERICA
GRATEFUL DEAD'S GARCIA



"Sometimes at night I dream. He's still that hairy man, shadow boxing the apocalypse, wandering the land."
-Brother Esau
HOWEVER, TRAGEDY STRIKES ONCE AGAIN, ON OCTOBER 26TH, WHEN BILL GRAHAM (ALONG WITH TWO OTHERS) IS KILLED IN A HELICOPTER CRASH, WHILE LEAVING A CONCERT HE'D PROMOTED.
THOUGH ORIGINALLY PERCEIVED AS AN ADVERSARY BY THE DEAD, GRAHAM (ONCE HE'D SETTLED INTO A STRIDE) HAD BECOME A VITAL FIGURE TO THEM AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER BANDS. AS THE GENRE'S PREMIER SHOWMAN AND BUSINESS BRAIN, HE WAS PEERLESS. NOT ALWAYS LOVED, HE WAS ALWAYS RESPECTED, AND HE'LL BE SORELY MISSED.
THE DEAD ARE PARTICULARLY HARD-HIT BY THE LOSS.
WHAT'LL WE DO FOR NEW YEARS? WHO'LL RIDE THE FLOAT?
WE'VE LOST SO MANY FAMILY MEMBERS THROUGH THE YEARS... IT JUST ISN'T FAIR!
OKAY, ELVIS, YOU'RE ON NEXT! AND TELL LENNON TO HURRY UP AND GET HIS HARP TUNED, GODDAMNIT.. OOPS, I MEAN DARN IT!
ON NOVEMBER 3RD 1991, 300,000 PEOPLE ATTEND A FREE 5½ HOUR BILL GRAHAM TRIBUTE CONCERT IN SAN FRANCISCO'S GOLDEN GATE PARK. MANY SHARE THEIR MEMORIES FROM THE STAGE, AND PERFORMERS INCLUDE JACKSON BROWNE, JOURNEY, TRACY CHAPMAN, JOAN BAEZ, JOHN FOGERTY, CSNY AND, OF COURSE, THE DEAD.
A DC-10 PLANE DROPS CARNATIONS ON THE CROWD AS THE DEAD TAKES THE STAGE, PROMPTING LOUD CHEERS TO MIX WITH THE PROFOUND TEARS.

AND THAT'S WHERE WE FIND THE DEAD IN EARLY 1992: WITH AN OFFICIAL NEW KEYBOARDIST, VINCE WELLNICK (OF THE TUBES) AFTER RELEASING A NEW RECORD IN LATE '91 (INFRARED ROSES), THEY ANNOUNCE THAT THEY'LL RETIRE FROM TOURING FOR AWHILE, TO CONCENTRATE ON STUDIO WORK (BAD NEWS FOR TRAVELING DEADHEADS).
WE'VE SPENT THREE ISSUES PONTIFICATING ON THE RELEVANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BAND'S TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS, MUSIC AND SURVIVAL.
SO WE'LL LET A COUPLE OF RARELY QUOTED BANDMEMBERS SUM UP OUR BOOKS OF THE DEAD.
I'D CALL WHAT WE DO "ELECTRIC CHAMBER MUSIC" OR "MUSIC OF FRIENDS".
MUSIC'S EXPLICIT PURPOSE IS SOCIALIZATION, AND IT'S EFFECTIVENESS IS ITS MEASURE. IF YOU APPRECIATE THE MUSIC, YOU'RE IN A BETTER POSITION TO APPRECIATE THE WORLD!
PHIL LESH
MICKEY HART
" love is love and not fade away... "

(continued from inside front cover)

challenged." And yet, Judge Rhoades of Federal District court thinks this indeed was a First Amendment issue, he made that very clear. And he's not the only one. *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *The San Diego Tribune*, *The Chicago Tribune*, even *The Washington Post* cited the First Amendment in their articles about us. And none of them are charged with the responsibility of heading an anti-censorship fund. You are. And yet in the face of all this you still say my First Amendment rights aren't challenged. If Grateful Dead is going to sue me for exercising my right to write about them, yes they are challenged. If you'd like, I'll send you a copy of Judge Rhoades' denial of the News Kids' restraining order. How much more clear can he make it? "The First Amendment may trump any claim to copyright infringement." A Federal Judge said that, Denis. How can you say my First Amendment rights are not challenged when they are blatantly being challenged by people who should be defending the First Amendment--you and the music industry in the person of the Dead's management!

> *"I think of you as the comics' counterpart to Larry Flynt..."*
>
> **Denis Kitchen**

Yes I do "shout about the First Amendment," and I will keep shouting about it, because I can think of nothing that is more worthy of shouting about!

Todd Loren

Denis faxed this reply on the letterhead of the CBLDF, with his name listed at the top as President/Treasurer.

Todd:

I have an obvious conflict of interest in terms of trying to look objectively at the question of *Grateful Dead Comix* infringement. And I don't desire to engage in any further polemics with you on the subject.

But let me, for the record, inform you that under the new rules whereby the CBLDF receives its tax-exempt non-profit status from the IRS, I do <u>not</u> personally make decisions of who is defended and the board members you see on this letterhead likewise do <u>not</u> make recommendations on which cases are defended by the CBLDF. We are required to submit requests to a sub-committee of three, which must include a university law professor and at least one other person outside the comics industry, to demonstrate that the funds are not used for the private benefit of anyone in the comics industry.

So whatever obvious personality conflicts might exist between you and I or between you and any other board members, the CBLDF will not and cannot hold any grudge against you. All applications are treated in the same way. I administer the organization but I am not empowered to make solitary decisions on allocation of funds, nor do I or my company receive any funds or compensation directly or indirectly from the CBLDF, nor do any other board members.

Denis Kitchen

> *"Show me a man who is hated by his peers, and I'll show you a fearless innovator..."*
>
> **Todd Loren**

This gives the impression that I had some interest in obtaining funds from the CBLDF. That was not my intention, nor did I inquire as to such. Basically what Kitchen said in his final volley was that he could not be objective on this matter. He must have known this from the start, and yet he insisted on responding with his less-than-objective remarks a total of four times. And this repeated insistence that this whole matter is not worth his time... is downright irresponsible. Do you know what he deems worthy of his time? He reprints old *Nancy* comics. Some of the worst and stupidest comic strips ever made, comics which should have never even seen the light of day in the first place, and he's made a large portion of his purpose in life that of reprinting these exercises in infantile excrementia. Also, Kitchen's *officially authorized* (like anyone cares) *Grateful Dead Comix* haven't been selling too well. Maybe that's the real reason why he's so testy these days. Maybe he paid a fortune to Dead management to do these books, and things looked real good after #1 came out. But then once the people had a chance to see what they really are, if became clear that *this* was the truly exploitative item, because it attempts to put across the idea that authorization makes something good. It doesn't. His books are adequately drawn, but because they are subject to approval they are practically devoid of editorial content!

The letter from the Dead was no more than a pacifier for Kitchen, a way to shut him up when he called them to complain that someone was producing a Dead comic without subjecting himself to be reamed like he was.

See you in the funny papers, Denis.

Revolutionary Comics welcomes questions, comments and criticism from our readers. Address letters to: Revolutionary Comics, 3841 Fourth Avenue #229, San Diego, CA 92103.

create peace

You Cannot Simultaneously Prevent And Prepare For War

Peace Through Music

Question Authority

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

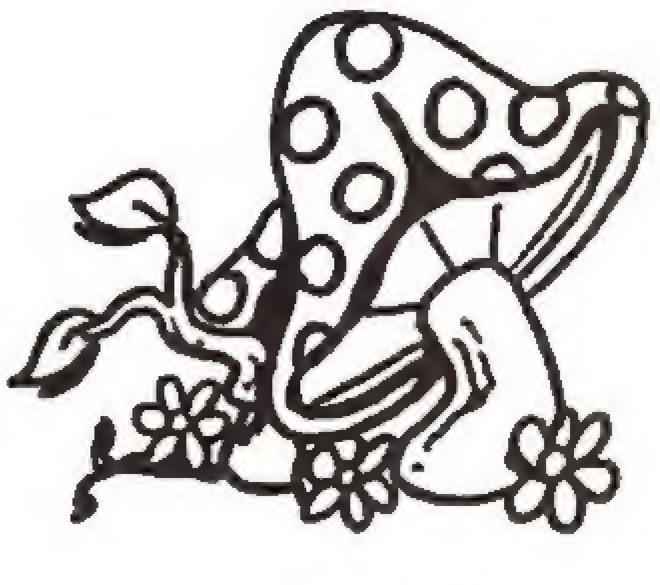
UNITE FOR PEACE

Your DEAD HEADquarters

FOR ALL THE GOODIES FOUND ON TOUR WITH THE DEAD
WE HAVE THE LOWEST PRICES ANYWHERE, CHECK US OUT AND SEE.

Items Include:

T-Shirts: Grateful Dead, tie-dyes, pro-environment, anti-war, airbrush, and more.
Stickers: Grateful Dead, pro-environment, anti-war.
Guatemalan Imports: Everything from bracelets to jackets.
Indian Imports: Skirts, Harem pants, Dashikis, T-shirts, ankle bells and more.
Mexican Imports: Bajas, blankets, ponchos, sandals, and more.
Crystal prisms and healing crystals.
Lava lamps, kaliedoscopes, and other toys to "space" to.
Incense.
Door curtains.
Peace jewelry.



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Live Simply That Others may Simply Live

PEACE

YOU CAN'T HUG CHILDREN WITH NUCLEAR ARMS

THINK PEACE

Once is not enough... RECYCLE

LOVE YOUR MOTHER

It will be a great day when our schools get all the money they need and the air force has to hold a bake sale to buy a bomber

NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS

ARMS ARE FOR HUGGING

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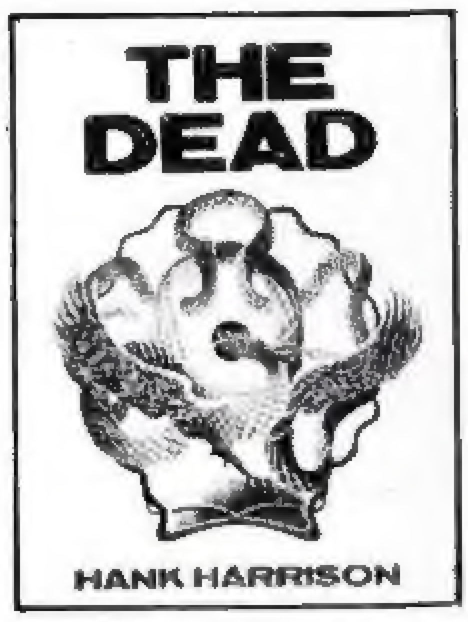

HANK HARRISON'S
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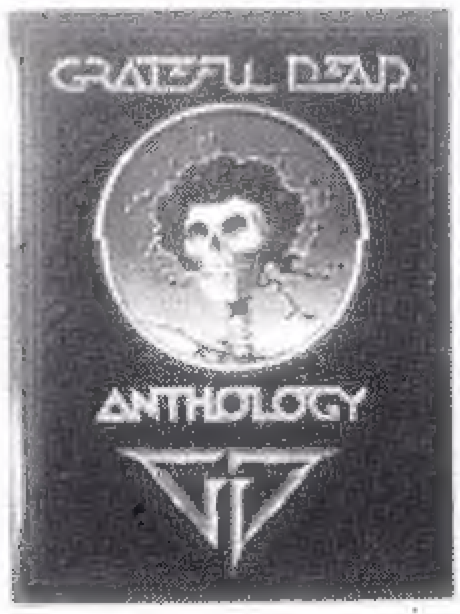

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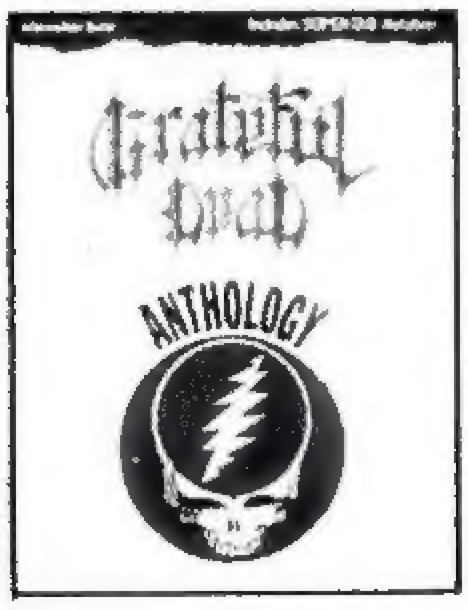

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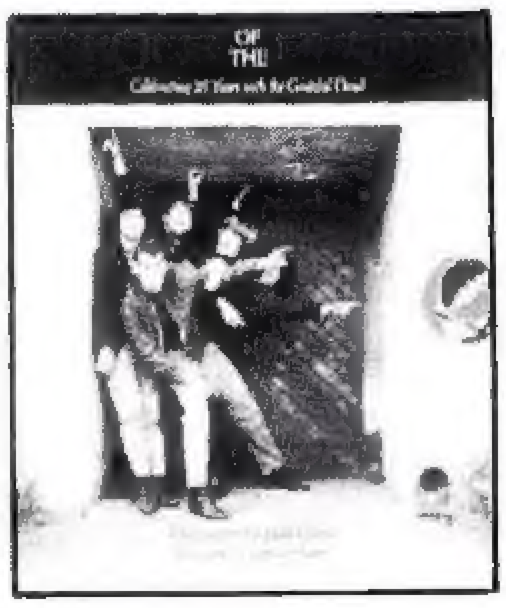

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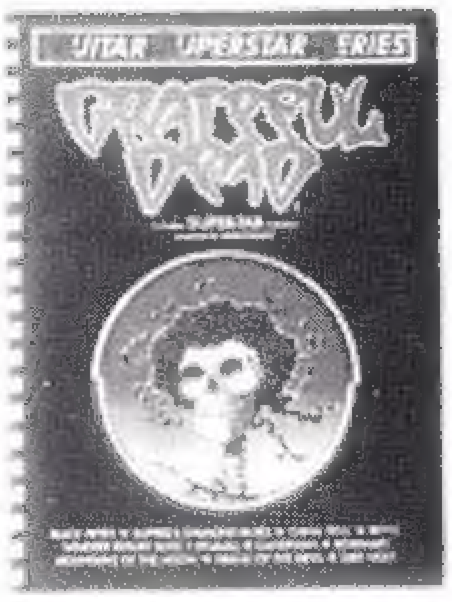

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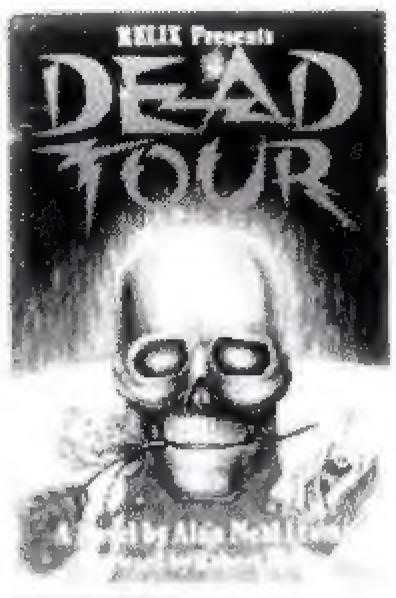

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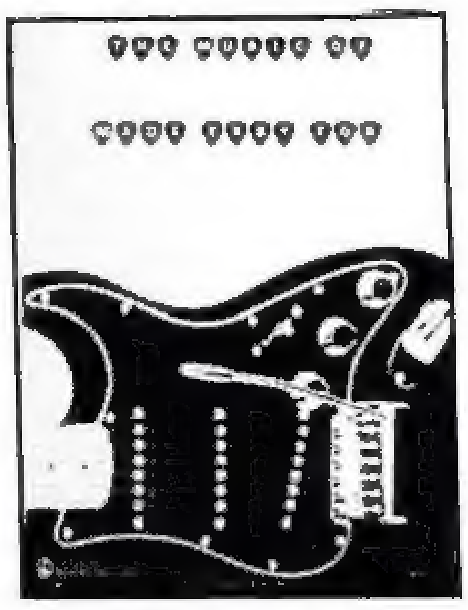

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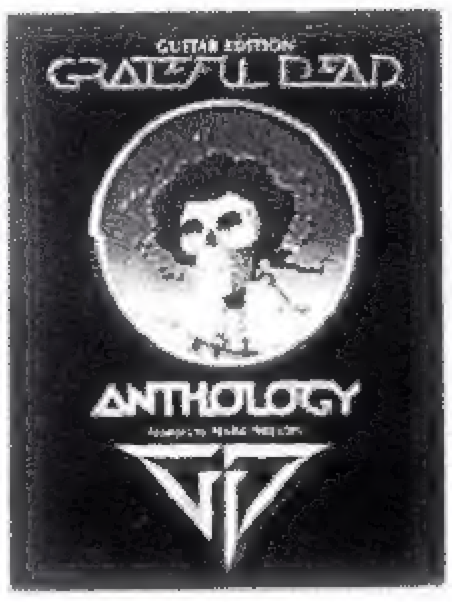

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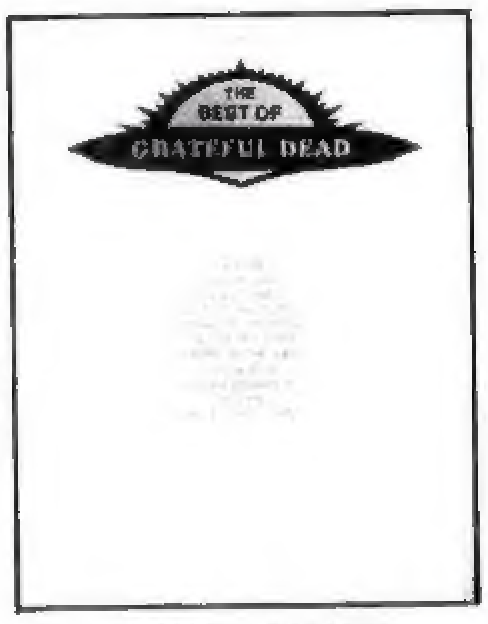

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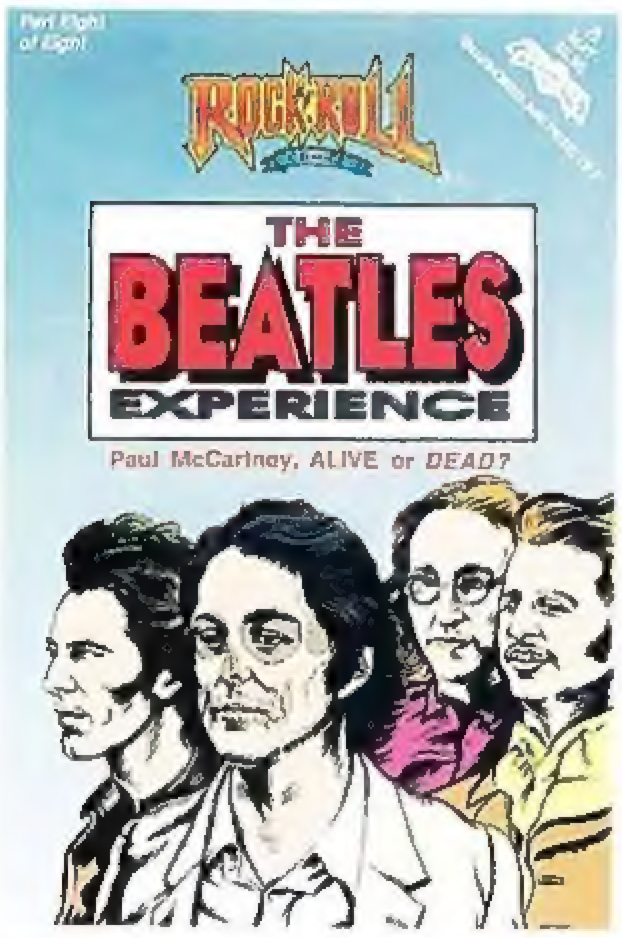

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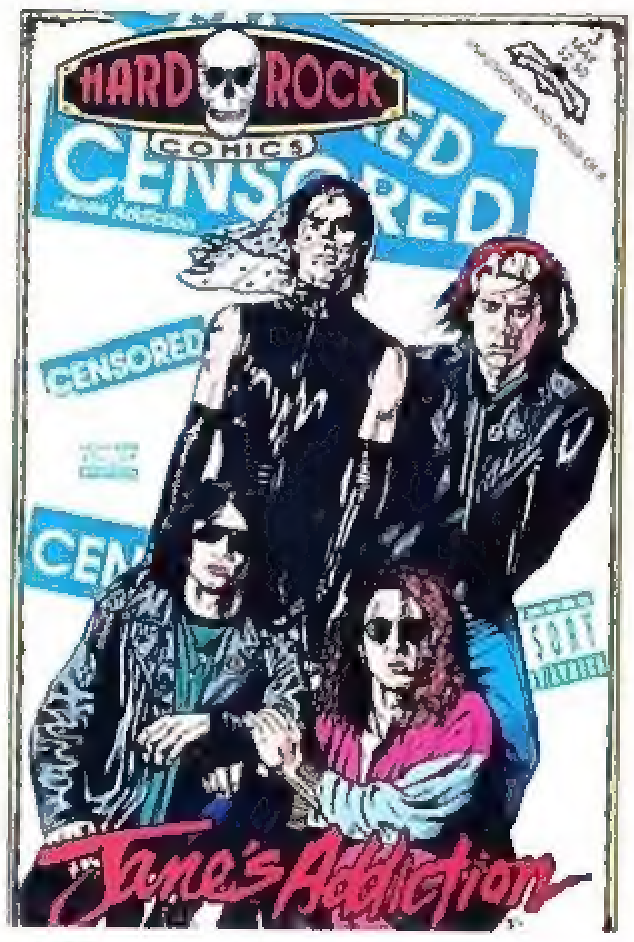

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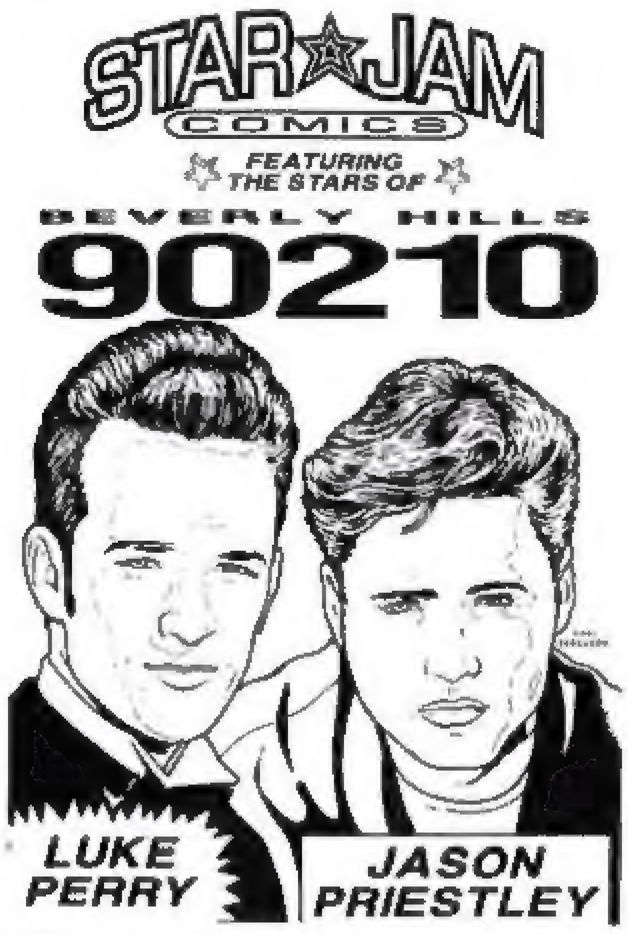

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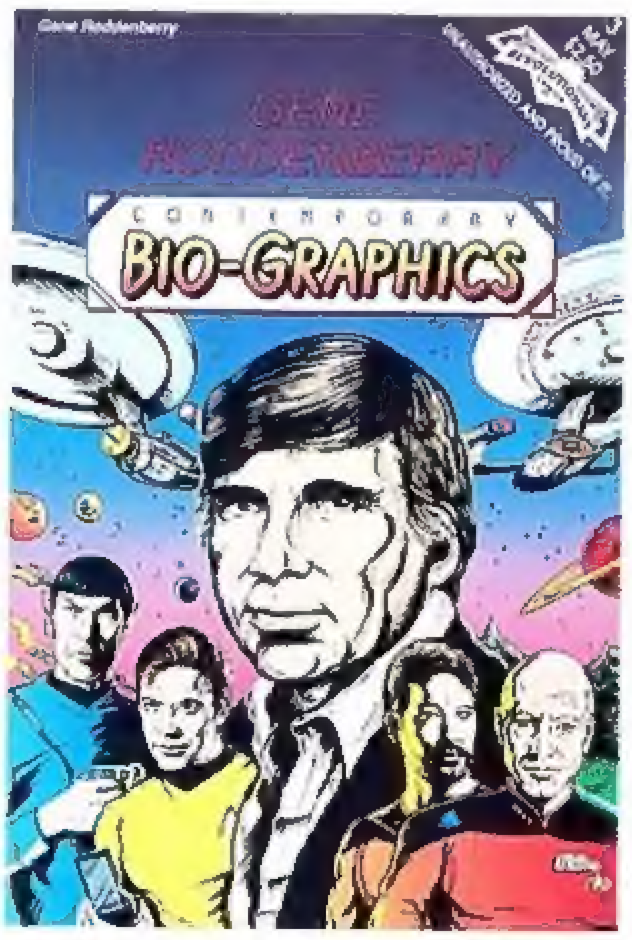

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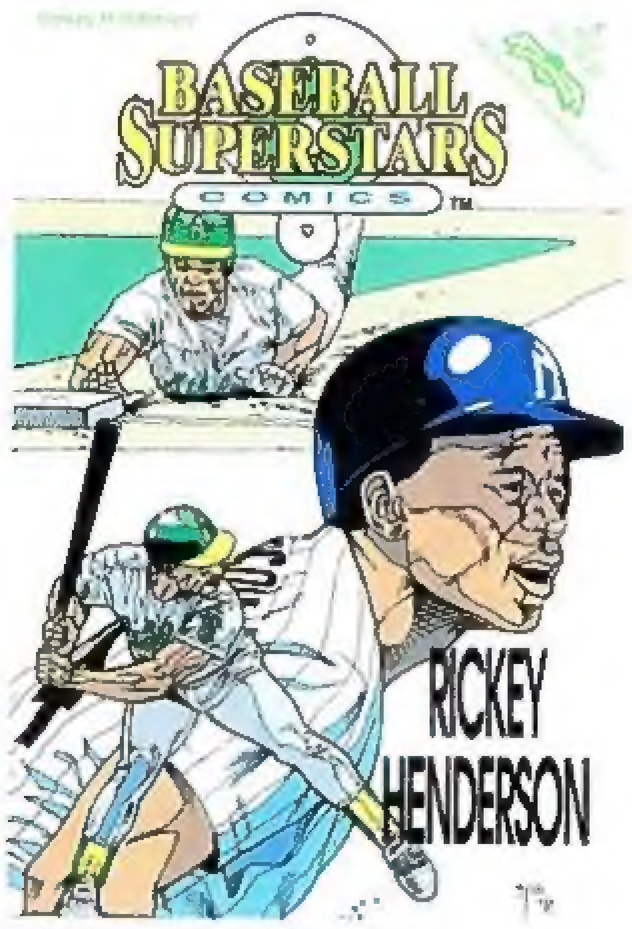

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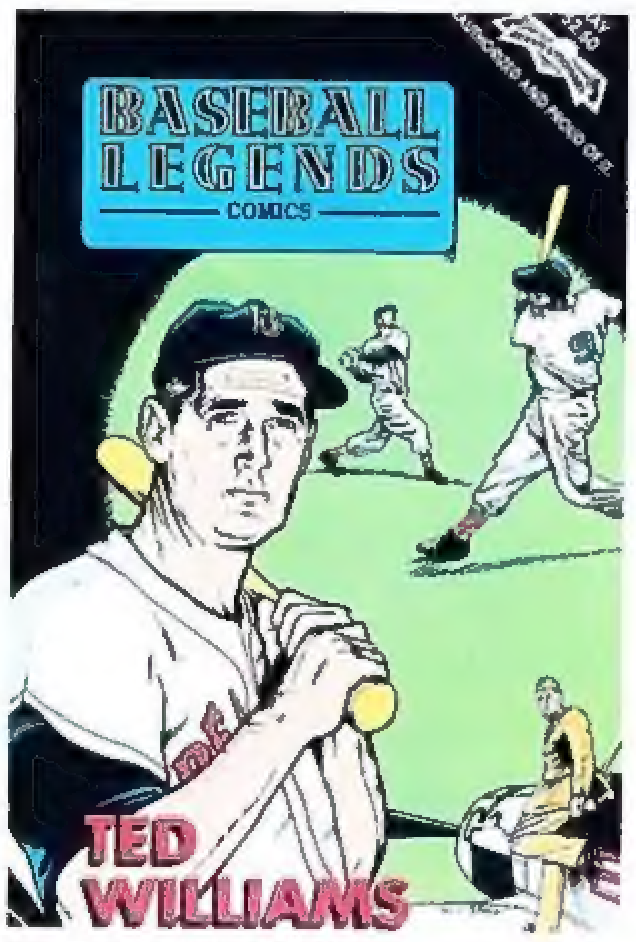

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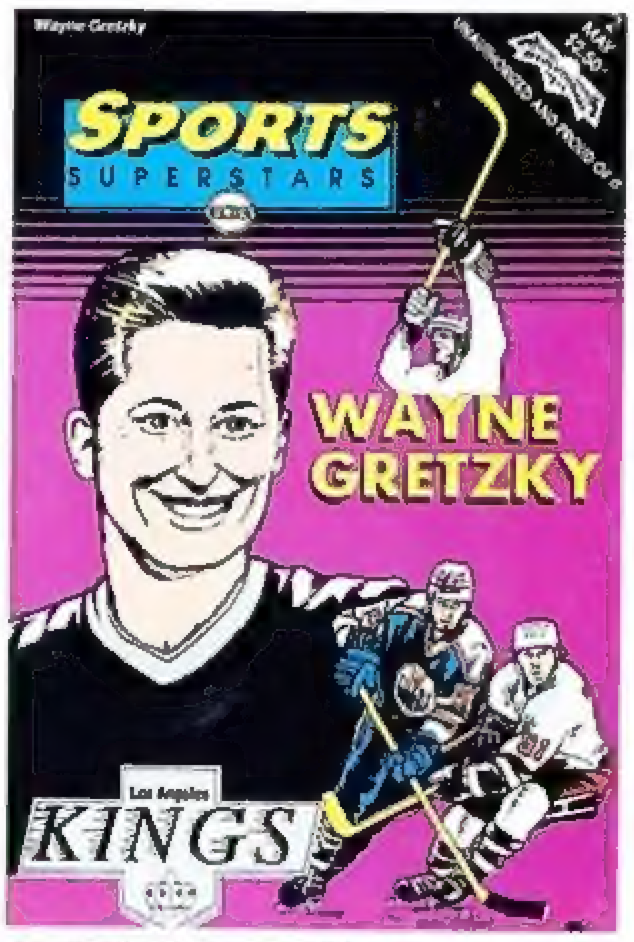

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